Daily Report

Latin America

FBIS-LAT-92-177
Friday
11 September 1992

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FBIS-LAT-92-177 *11 September 1992*

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Brazil

Rio de Janeiro TV reports President Collor "accepted the resignation of Jorge Bornhausen" who was the government's political coordinator for five months. Bornhausen cited the Congressional Investigating Committee's attempts to uncover facts that "must be fully clarified," the "strong political and electoral pressure" exerted on the committee, and the "hybrid method of voting" on the impeachment process for his decision to step down.

Brasilia radio reports that the Federal Supreme Court decided by "seven votes to one" that President Collor will "have 10 congressional sessions to defend himself" against impeachment charges in the Chamber of Deputies. The court members extended the term for his defense so the president will be "able to request evidence, produce evidence, and request the presence of experts." They decided that the government appeal for an injunction "was admissible" and that 10 congressional sessions, as opposed to five which Chamber of Deputies President Ibsen Pinheiro suggested, is "also the term granted by the Federal Supreme Court in cases of common crimes." President Collor's personal lawyer, Jose Guilherme Villela, said the president received the news of the court's decision "with satisfaction and calm," the radio reports.

The government has "canceled" all imports of wheat from the U.S. "in protest over the U.S. Government decision to subsidize exports of 30 million tons of wheat to dozens of countries," according to Brasilia radio. Agriculture Minister Antonio Cabrera said this subsidy "represents a new blow to the world principle on free trade."

Haiti

Port-au-Prince radio reports that the Bazin and Aristide representatives meeting in Washington have agreed that "the OAS send an 18-member civilian mission to Haiti...to reduce the acts of violence, to guarantee respect for human rights, to participate in the distribution of humanitarian aid to Haiti, and to assess progress toward a political solution to the Haitian crisis and the possibilities for modifying the embargo..."

Honduras

Tegucigalpa TV carries an interview with Salvadoran President Cristiani and Honduran President Callejas on the International Court of Justice [ICJ] ruling expected 11 September. In response to whether there is a "negative climate in anticipation of the ICJ ruling," President Cristiani replied his country awaits the decision "feeling that this is the closing of a chapter and the opening of a new one." President Callejas agreed with his "good friend," with whom he shares "the vision of a united Central America," and said the "prevailing mood" in Honduras is "one of confidence" that the ruling will "define, once and for all, a border which in the past caused conflict." Regarding the potential for military reaction, President Cristiani stated the Armed Forces of El Salvador and Honduras "do not have a role to play in this decision" except to guarantee the security and property of citizens who "find themselves on one side or the other of the Honduran-Salvadoran border." "We submitted ourselves to the ICJ's jurisdiction...It is a ruling that cannot be appealed," President Callejas noted, and the "governments are obliged to respect and implement the ruling in good faith,." the TV adds.

CAF, Caricom Initiate Trade Relations

PA0909170392 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1809 GMT 8 Sep 92

[Text] Caracas, 8 Sep (EFE)—It was reported today in Caracas that the Andean Development Corporation (CAF) and the Caribbean Common Market (Caricom) have signed an agreement aimed at fostering trade activities among the Caribbean and Andean nations.

CAF, the Andean Pact's financial entity with headquarters in Caracas, granted a $5 million line of credit to the Royal Bank of Trinidad and Tobago, as the first specific action patronized by the mentioned agreement.

The credit granted by the CAF will allow the financing of trade operations among the members of Caricom and Bolivia, Colombia, Peru, Ecuador, and Venezuela, signatory nations of the Cartagena Agreement.

CAF President Bolivian Enrique Garcia Rodriguez noted that this agreement means the conclusion of a series of studies carried out by CAF to analyze trade between these two regions, whose total population amounts to approximately 100 million.

Garcia pointed out that traditionally, the Caribbean nations have had close relations with Europe and the United States but that now the Caribbean investors and businessmen can embark on a new stage of productive negotiations with their Latin American colleagues.

The CAF president stated that one of the obstacles in the trade between these two regions is the lack of information on alternate sources of supply of products and credits.

CAF is preparing a detailed report on the markets, products, customers, availability of transportation and distribution means, as well as on the norms that regulate the export trade in both regions.

Caricom's Carrington on U.S. Position on CET

FL0409005992 Bridgetown CANA in English 1956 GMT 3 Sep 92

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Sept 3, CANA—Caribbean Community (Caricom) Secretary-General Edwin Carrington said Thursday the 13-nation economic grouping should not allow itself to be bullied into restructuring the Common External Tariff (CET) to make it favourable to the United States.

"I sincerely hope that whatever decision we take, would not be the result of bullying by anybody," Carrington told reporters at a lengthy press conference.

"(I would hope) that we would weigh all the factors into account, including the U.S. position, and arrive at what we consider the best possible package in the interest of the Caribbean Community."

The United States which is promoting free trade for the Caribbean, wants a substantial lowering of the current 45 per cent rate ceiling of the CET which seeks to shield Caricom industries from extra-regional competition.

Caricom heads of government, at their summit in Trinidad two months ago, ordered a review of the CET. They will meet next month in Port-of-Spain to consider a restructured version of the CET.

Said Carrington: "It is a dreamer who would say that the U.S. position is not important. It is important because it is one of the important markets we are trying to get." But Carrington added he could not see the region's final decision being "determined" by the U.S. position. "I honestly do not believe that this will be so in October. Too much is at stake.... too much regional views have been expressed.... too many institutions have come forward to state their positions for it to be otherwise."

Cuba

Castro Speaks To Juragua Power Plant Workers

FL1009223092 Havana Cuba Vision Network in Spanish 0125 GMT 10 Sep 92

[Speech by President Fidel Castro to the workers of the Juragua Nuclear Power Plant in Cienfuegos on 2 September—recorded]

[Text] Comrades, I want to know if you can hear me. [crowd answers: Yes.] Together we can accomplish a lot. That is very good. Now lower the sign so I can see the people in the back. Thank you very much. [applause] That is good. It has been said, it has been said [repeats] that it hardly ever rains here, but today it is raining. Anyway, this meeting has nothing to do with the 26 July celebration. It has nothing to do with the 5 September celebration. This meeting has to do with the disaster that occurred within the former socialist bloc which, naturally, affects us a great deal. It has consequences for this project that we are building here.

I have visited this place many times. I have invited important people to visit it. I have talked with you. I was concerned, as was my duty as a party and government leader, about your situation: your living conditions, wages, food, clothing, and transportation. We did many things throughout the building of this project to improve the workers' living conditions. We even built a camping area so you could go there with your families. With great patience and hope, we watched for many years as it was being built, stone upon stone.

Tons and tons of cement, sand, and steel were invested in this project. When the disaster of the socialist bloc came about, we did everything possible to continue this project, almost beyond what was possible. We have been investing great resources; in the first place, your hard work, as well as cement, rocks, sand, materials, time, and energy. We have invested all this to this day.

Nevertheless, we have had to consider whether, under the current circumstances, we could continue (?investing resources) in this project since the equipment was coming from the Soviet Union: reactors, motors, and much of the most important materials. Some of the equipment continued to arrive during the crisis period, until one day the USSR split up. Even though the USSR split up, we continued to study, along with those who call themselves the heirs to the USSR, to see whether this project could continue. We did not want to stop the project. Our desire was to stop the project only when it was completely impossible to continue its construction.

That is why I have come here today, to tell you that we must stop the project, even if temporarily, even if temporarily. [repeats] But if we have to defend it...[corrects himself] if we have to suspend it for good, we must be willing to suspend it for good. It is not our fault, comrades. We have worked here with seriousness, energy, and enthusiasm worthy of better results. But our country does not manufacture nuclear reactors. We have to receive them from over there, and you know of the very serious problems we have had with supplies.

Now, I want to explain the specific reasons that make it impossible to continue the project under the current circumstances. We also need to decide what we are going to do when we make this decision and when to take these steps related to suspending the project. I have some papers there, if you would do me the favor of handing them to me. We have the national ceremony on 5 September, and we must inform the people that this project is going to be temporarily suspended, since we hope it will be a temporary suspension and that we will be able to resume the building of the project later on. I did not want the marvelous workers of this contingent and this workforce to learn about this at the 5 September public ceremony. That is why I proposed to the comrades that I come here to explain it to you so you would know all the factors and all the (?reasons).

We have analyzed these factors; I do not want you to think that it was a decision that was made on the spur of a moment. Rather, it was something that we thought about and analyzed a great deal before reaching the conclusion that it was crazy to continue investing human and material resources in this project. It was crazy. Comrades, we cannot do crazy things. We waited as long as it was possible for us to wait. When we saw that it would be impossible to wait any longer, we spoke to the Soviets. We spoke to them clearly about the reasons we needed to suspend, at least temporarily, or at least temporarily suspend, [repeats] this project.

It is raining and these papers will probably become pulp for the (?paper) industry, but I am going to mention the essential points.

In 1972 ... [changes thought] I ask you to be a little patient, because I want you to have as many criteria with which to judge as possible. When the highest authorities of the Cuban Government and the Soviet Union agreed to begin cooperation, with a view toward introducing nuclear energy into Cuba, an opportunity arose that presented advantages not only for Cuba but also for the Soviet nuclear industry: to develop and perfect its technology in a country with conditions very different [words indistinct], which would allow it—as did indeed happen—to expand its export markets to other regions. The steps toward building the CEN [Nuclear Power Plant] in Juragua began within that context of mutual advantages for both nations.

The basic element in reaching an agreement of that kind was the relationship of friendship and trust established between our two peoples, the Soviet and the Cuban—a relationship that had existed for many years—as well as the political will to support a fair exchange which would include reasonable credits for an investment of that type.

On that basis, a serious, solid commitment was established for design, construction, start-up, fuel supply, and maintenance during the useful life of the CEN, as well as

for guaranteeing the safe operation of the plant. The intergovernmental agreements for economic and technical cooperation included the delivery of two nuclear reactors ... [pauses] What happened? Is it thunder, or this mike?

It says: The intergovernmental agreements for economic and technical cooperation included the delivery of two 440-megawatt nuclear reactors—actually, the project was larger: four reactors, although agreement for only two had been reached at that time—Project B-318, under appropriate credit conditions. You must understand that this kind of thing is extremely expensive. How could we do it except with credits? The obligations of both parties in carrying out this work were established. The Soviets would provide all the technology and technical aid. Successive agreements were signed, because, as you know, this has been postponed several times. It has had first one completion date and then another. This happens with many projects, and also happened here.

The 14 April 1976 accord established payment terms of 25 years, beginning on 1 January 1981, or the year following the year of delivery, for deliveries after 1980—because we expected to finish sooner—with an interest rate of 2.5 percent. The 17 April 1981 accord established a 12-year term, starting two years after the final delivery required for the start-up of operations, with an interest rate of 4 percent. The 10 April 1986 accord established a 12-year term with a five-year grace period—grace period means you have five years before you must begin to pay—a five-year grace period following the time of delivery, with an interest rate of 4 percent. The conditions for the 29 December 1990 accord were the same as those of the 1986 accord—that is, the last one I told you about—so, a five-year grace period, beginning with the deliveries, and an interest rate of 4 percent. This agreement was ratified on 29 December, and was the same as the 1986 agreement. Finally, on 6 October 1989, the intergovernmental (?accord) was signed for construction cooperation on the Juragua CEN in the Republic of Cuba.

An analysis of the current status of the construction of the CEN reflects Cuba's serious and sustained effort under the most difficult conditions [words indistinct] to fulfill [words indistinct]. So we see that the first block of the CEN is in the following condition: 90 percent of the civil engineering has been completed; more than 95 percent of the auxiliary sites are close to completion and some are ready to begin operation; more than 350,000 cubic meters of concrete have been poured; 7,000 tons of equipment, and almost 3,000 tons of technical pipes [words indistinct]; and we have 80 percent of the supplies needed to begin operation of the block.

More than $1.1 billion has been invested to-date. That is how much has been invested here to-date. A city of more than 2,000 housing units has been built. An industrial base that supports the construction of the CEN, roads, railroad tracks, a polytechnical school, a port for large ships, and all the other projects required for the technical and service infrastructure of this colossal project have been built. Our country has not spared any effort in creating a solid foundation of scientific and technical support for the assimilation of nuclear energy and the introducion of nuclear science and technology into the national economy. Toward that end, approximately 2,000 professionals and thousands of skilled workers have been trained in this field.

A legal and regulatory base has been created for this activity and for the institutions and entities that support this program. Cuba has set a magnificent example of respect for what was agreed to, despite delays in building the CEN resulting from uncertainty about the automated system to be used to monitor the plant, as a consequence of the tragic accident at the Chernobyl CEN, which forced the Soviet organizations to modify the design. It forced them to improve the design. As you know, the technology we are using here is nothing like the Chernobyl reactor. The technology we are using here is the same as what is used throughout the world, and there have been no problems with it. The Chernobyl reactor uses different technology.

But in spite of that, the Chernobyl accident forced the Soviet organizations to analyze, elaborate, and further improve all the safety systems and specifications for this kind of equipment. To these delays were added other delays that resulted from the prolonged and serious internal difficulties in the Soviet Union—when the disaster began in the Soviet Union, everything concerning deliveries began to be delayed and get complicated—and later from the radical and dramatic changes which had been occurring in the cooperative relationship between Cuba and Russia, for which we are not in the least responsible. What fault do we have for all the confusion, problems, and mistakes they have made? [pauses] I am going to wait until the thunder passes.

Under the most difficult conditions, the Cuban Government has harbored the hope that we could preserve the conditions of cooperation on the Juragua CEN in order to conclude its construction even after the cancellation of other vitally important accords. Based on these considerations, we have been working toward that aim, and during the first part of April 1992, we met with the Russian delegation responsible for reviewing cooperation on the Juragua CEN.

Unfortunately, the Russian authorities, after completely altering the trade relations between our two countries and unilaterally suspending all cooperative relationships, had proposed continuing construction of the CEN under terms and conditions that make this completely impossible, since we have verified that even though they are offering us credit to cover part of the Russian organizations' expenses, the new conditions under which the project would have to be completed would be as follows.

The credit would not cover all the supplies and services from [words indistinct] and other countries, nor the

delivery of equipment, instruments, and materials additionally produced under agreement between the parties, including replacements for broken parts. Cuba would have to obtain part of the automated system directly from a third country without being able to rely on a Russian guarantee. The conditions and payment terms for the special assembly of the basic equipment, adjustment and start-up work, the training of personnel who would work at the plant, installation, testing, and start-up of the automated control system—this is known as the famous (?SAT PT); I am sure you must have heard Montalvo [not further identified] mention it many times—supplied by the Russians; services; and technical assistance would be very different, and the supplies would be delivered f.o.b.—from there—instead of c.i.f. as had been previously agreed upon. Do you know what it is to transport all that equipment? On what ships?

To propose that Cuba must pay approximately $200 million in cash to Russian organizations and arrange for credits in addition to those that were previously agreed to, and for approximately $200 million more from third countries for the completion of the CEN, means that one is not taking into account the fact that Cuba is resolutely confronting the intensification of the economic embargo which the U.S. Government has imposed on us for the last 30 years. We do not have access to credit resources from international financial organizations or any other type. This, moreover, does not take into consideration the country's economic difficulties, which have forced us to declare a special period in peacetime due to the 60-percent reduction in imports because Russia suspended the traditional trade relations between our two countries.

We expressed our objections to the new conditions proposed to finish this project, to the delegation that visited us in April. They advised us that the definitive, official version of the Russian proposals would be completed in May. We decided to wait for this version before making a decision on the problem. Time passed and the documents that were promised were never submitted. Meanwhile, with every passing day, we invested more human and material resources in the project. For us, it is too burdensome to wait any longer.

These facts have brought us to the painful conclusion that to continue the project under the new conditions proposed—and with so many obstacles, difficulties, and delays in defining the path we should follow, on a solid, realistic basis—is something that our economy cannot bear under the current circumstances. Therefore, we have decided to propose to the Russian Government that this project be totally suspended ... [corrects himself] be temporarily suspended.

A lot of thought has been given to taking this step. Our country has always considered the building of the CEN one of our most important projects, and the Cuban people had labeled it the project of the century. The functioning of the two blocks planned for the CEN's first stage would have allowed Cuba, which is lacking in significant energy resources, to have saved 1.2 million tons of oil or fuel per year in generating electricity. It was on that need that the joint effort of almost 20 years was based. Furthermore, as you know, there were going to be four reactors, and the new CEN that was to have been built in the eastern region was already being studied.

These are the arguments that we put to them. I have wanted to read them to you so you would be well informed. Do you really think, comrades, that under such conditions we can continue working here to have electricity sometime in the distant future? [crowd answers: No!] Pouring cement, sand, rocks, everything, here without being certain of the result? [crowd answers: No!] To see if in four, five, six, seven, or 10 years we can perhaps light a light bulb with energy from this nuclear power plant? [crowd answers: No!] Under these conditions?

It is very sad, very tough, but the truth is that we did everything we could to maintain hope up to the last minute. But we cannot do it any longer. Will that country be capable of supplying us with the equipment? With all the problems you know they are having there? Can we ourselves pay cash, go barefoot in order to be able to pay in cash? [crowd answers: No!] Find hundreds of millions [currency not specified] in other, third, countries—if they would give us credit—for the automated control system? Can we continue a project that was contracted for under different terms, with up to 25, or 15, years to pay for it, once it was up and running?

No, we cannot. It is painful and sad, but we must find the courage to be realistic about things, to see things as they really are. Now, is this the last word? No. It is in their interest, in some ways, to have their technology progress, to be able to have the world as their customer. But do we have to bear the cost of such an experiment?

After this is finished, we have the matter of the fuel. Who can guarantee us the fuel? Who can guarantee us that terrible pressure from the imperialists in this unipolar world will not prevent people from delivering the fuel to us? Can we continue to invest millions and millions of hours, and hundreds of millions [currency not specified] in resources—considering the needs we have—without any guarantee that this will indeed get off the ground, that fuel will be available? Truly, in order to be certain of this, we would have to wait for different conditions, different circumstances.

We have thousands of men and women working here. Can we keep them engaged in a fruitless effort, an effort with uncertain results? Would it not be better, at the present time, for those thousands of men and women to be doing things with guaranteed results? Things that would guarantee the nation considerable income in a short time, things that would permit us to buy a bit more fuel for agriculture, transportation, or whatever? Would it not be better for us to invest our efforts in getting more oil out of our wells? To invest our efforts in joint ventures with certain companies to seek more fuel?

Things that are certain to bring results for our economy in these very difficult times?

This is, then, a very important issue. It is not a matter of getting this far and saying: The project has been stopped. No, it cannot be that way. There are a few things we must do. First we must build a few things to protect what has not been completed so they will not be ruined. If we leave them as they are, we will lose them, and we will lose the hope of being able to continue the project in the future, with the Russians or with somebody else who may be interested in it. So, there are still some investments that we must make in order to preserve what already exists. All those tens of thousands of tons of equipment must be protected and preserved, so we still need a work effort. We still have to invest in concrete and other construction materials to preserve things, and this cannot be done overnight. This is not a thatched hut we are building here! We cannot stop building it today only to start building it again in a year, building it all over again. This is a gigantic project that requires effort to maintain it, so as not to make us give up hope. This must be done in an organized manner.

On the other hand, we have to progressively transfer this work force to other fronts. What we are interested in is making sure that this formidable work force does not fall into disarray. The CEN is an army. Its workers are an army that we cannot allow to disperse in disarray. We want to keep this work force organized to accomplish each one of the tasks: first the tasks that need to be accomplished here; then, whatever new tasks we may take on in different places; and later, the task of building here again, should the problems one day be solved and we need to continue building this nuclear power plant. We must therefore commit ourselves to preventing this army from disbanding, to ensuring that this formidable army of builders does not fall into disarray. The transfer of this army cannot be accomplished overnight. Perhaps we may be able to transfer a part of them in the next few weeks.

Where would we want you to build? We would like you to build in an area where we can obtain many resources quickly, such as tourism projects, tourism projects. [repeats] [applause] First of all, first of all [repeats] tourism projects in Varadero, tourism projects in Cayo Coco, and on the Isle of Youth. We are working on projects, plans, and other things there. [applause]

We would like all of you in the same place, but it is impossible. We must be like a real army, with one regiment here, another over there, and another one in a different direction, just like contingents, like contingents, [repeats] with the same spirit as a contingent, with the same spirit as veteran soldiers, the spirit with which you have worked here.

There are assembly workers. We cannot put everyone to work building hotels. Some of you, we can. Hotels have elevators, air conditioners, and many other things. Some of you are welders, but we have other tasks in the sugar industry, and we have yearly plans. We do not want—we are not frightened by the lightning— we do not want—because there was a tremendous flash of lightning over there— we do not want the assembly personnel to organize themselves. We do not want that. That is why we need to have an organized effort. If we send a detachment here, a detachment there, and another someplace else, it is as if they were part of the same contingent.

I imagine that you understand our idea. We do not want to resign ourselves to disbanding these forces. We want to maintain one family and one army, and like an army, to work together, united, and organized, wherever you are needed, and to be ready for the next task. That could be the resumption of the work here.

A number of workers must remain here also for maintenance and certain jobs. We must leave them here. But we also have another force, comrades: those who were going to operate this plant. There are hundreds of engineers and thousands of mid-level technicians. We do not want to separate them either. We want them to remain organized, part of them here doing all these maintenance tasks and another part doing other tasks, but always ready so we do not lose that force that has cost us so many resources and so much time to train. We must have them ready at any time.

That is our problem. The same thing I am telling you now, I must say to the people of Cienfuegos and the people of Cuba on 5 September so they will understand what we are doing, how we are doing it, and why we are doing it. We are not going to let this discourage us. We are never discouraged. We are not going to become demoralized because of this. We never become demoralized. We have faith in the people, and we have faith in our workers, builders, and this vanguard.

I know that this saddens you greatly because of all the millions, the tens and hundreds of millions of hours you have invested in this project. It saddens us. You can imagine how much it saddens all of us, all the men who have devoted a considerable part of their lives to building this project and organizing and training the personnel. Our sadness is terrible. But no sadness can kill us. No sentimentality can kill us. We can only be killed in battle. We can only be killed in the struggle. [applause, chanting] We will continue moving forward and fighting hard as we are doing now. We will look for solutions to our problems. We will work with courage and intelligence. That is what we need to be: courageous and intelligent.

Today we are the freest people in the world, I can say with pride as I see the way we confront these problems by ourselves, that we are the most courageous people in the world. [applause] Nature is weeping today, during this meeting. We could say that Nature is sad. Nature may weep, but we cannot weep. [applause] When we cry, we cry out of emotion. We cry because of our dignity. We cry because of our patriotism. But we will never cry out of (?sentimentality) or cowardice. We will never weep in

the face of any adversity, no matter how hard it may be. We will never weep in the face of any problem that may arise, because for good reason we are the children and heirs of those who fought so hard for the independence, dignity, and freedom of this island. [applause]

I exhort you to keep your spirits high and to cooperate with the leaders and organizers in all the tasks we will have to do in the coming weeks, months, and years. We will stay in touch with you no matter where you are because (we are) proud of the efforts you have made. I invite you to be present—if there is no room we will make additional room—at the 5 September ceremony here in Cienfuegos. [applause]

There, they will be able to hear your spirit. They will hear your spirit, courage, determination, and strength. You—who might be the most saddened by these blows of adversity—will be the example and vanguard there. There you will shout with great vigor and energy: Socialism or death, fatherland or death, we will win! [applause, chanting]

Additional Power Outages Announced in Havana

FL0909133892 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 2142 GMT GMT 8 Sep 92

[Text] Havana's Electric Enterprise has issued a note announcing that in addition to the power outages scheduled for tonight, there will be power outages in sections of all Havana municipalities. The note adds that this is due to the low generating capacity of the national electric power system. The outages will take place during the peak period from 1900 to 2300. We want to remind everyone that the period of electricity shortages will continue.

Havana City UJC Agrees To Promotions, Transfers

FL1009013192 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 9 Sep 92

[Text] In a special meeting attended by Politburo members Jorge Lezcano and Roberto Robaina, the Havana City provincial committee of the Union of Young Communists [UJC] agreed to release Teresita Garcia Moruarte from the post of UJC first secretary for Havana City Province. Garcia, who is a member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC], was promoted to do professional work for the PCC in Plaza de la Revolucion Municipality.

Likewise, (Zuleica Romay), who up to now had been the president of the Jose Marti Pioneers Organization in Havana, was promoted to a PCC post in Arroyo Naranjo Municipality.

Ramon Samada Suarez, who had been the UJC second secretary for Havana City Province, was also promoted to first secretary. Julio Carvajal Morales was appointed to replace him as the second secretary.

Other transfers of cadres at this level were agreed on in order to strengthen the organization's work in the province. Lezcano and Robaina recognized the good work done by Teresita Garcia in the UJC over the past two years, especially with recent preparations for the Sixth UJC Congress.

Roundup of Economic Activity Reported 4-9 Sep

FL0409203092

[Editorial Report] Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish at 1700 GMT on 4 September reports that Pedro Miret Prieto, who is president of the National Spare Parts, Equipment, and Cutting-Edge Technologies Commission [Comision Nacional de Piezas de Repuesto, Equipos, y Technologias de Avanzada], has affirmed in Havana that all papers for the 7th Spare Parts Forum having to do with providing services to the population "are vitally important, given the circumstances the nation is traversing."

The radio reports that the nation's largest oil and brake fluid-producing factory, which produces these lubricants from seeds of the (higuereta) plant, has begun operations under an Eastern Army unit charged with guaranteeing supplies of fuels and lubricants. The factory will be able to make 500 liters of product per day.

The radio also announces that on the Isle of Youth, the first high-quality grapefruits from the current harvest are being loaded onto the Cuban merchant marine vessel (Vinales) for shipment to eastern Europe, and that this is a first shipment.

Havana Tele Rebelde and Cuba Vision Networks in Spanish at 0000 GMT on 7 September report that the lack of fertilizer affected the rice planting plan in Pinar del Rio. Because of insufficient herbicides, weeds could not be controlled. As a result, fewer caballerias were planted and the yield—952 quintals per caballeria—was much lower than projected. Some 420,500 quintals have been harvested to date. The Sierra Maestra Agro-industrial Complex in Los Palacios has obtained yields of 1,028 quintals. Even though the winter harvest is not finished, Pinar del Rio workers have begun the spring campaign.

Havana Radio Rebelde in Spanish at 1700 GMT on 7 September reports the following economic activities.

—Camaguey has a steam-powered agricultural shop using machinery built in the past century. — By the end of August, Pinar del Rio had planted approximately 50 caballerias of bananas. The first biofactory in the province will help in the project to increase that figure in September. Approximately 200 caballerias of plantains have been planted to date in the province.

—The initial phase of the coffee harvest in Granma has been successful. Over 152,000 cans of coffee have been gathered. Workers were mobilized to help with

the harvest when weather conditions brought about a sudden ripening of the coffee beans.

—The Matanzas carbon disulfide factory has completed its test phase, during which the plant produced 32 tons of carbon disulfide of superior quality. The plant, built as part of the renovation of the rayon factory built in 1948, provides better working conditions than the old one, which generated environmental problems.

Havana Radio Rebelde in Spanish at 2300 GMT on 7 September reports on an assembly held by Martinez Prieto sugar refinery workers, presided over by Pedro Ross Leal, to evaluate their work plan and to discuss problems such as a 15-percent absenteeism rate. Refinery director Rene Valdez announced that the refinery will produce quality crude sugar and refined sugar by using sugarcane waste products as fuel instead of oil.

The radio also reports that Isle of Youth port workers have loaded 1,260 tons of grapefruit. In the Guantanamo cacao harvest, over 61,500 quintals have been harvested, constituting 80 percent of the national production. The current harvest should end around the last of September and is expected to be one of the largest of the past decade, surpassing the projected 36,600 quintals.

Havana Tele Rebelde and Cuba Vision Networks in Spanish at 0000 GMT on 8 September carry an interview with Fidel Ramos, PCC first secretary in Pinar del Rio Province, whose comments included the following: The sugarcane harvest has been completed; harvest of the 2,258 caballerias planted in rice is underway; practically all of the 2,700 caballerias of tobacco have been planted; 38,000 workers were mobilized in February and March; Pinar del Rio was the province most affected by heavy June rains; despite rain damage, 300 caballerias of tubers and vegetables were planted in July.

Havana Radio Rebelde in Spanish at 1700 GMT on 8 September reports that Granma sugar workers exceeded their clearing and planting program for the month of August, during which they weeded 14,000 caballerias of land, 800 more than planned. In September, they plan to finish weeding and clearing. Workers have exceeded the plan by 11 percent, with a total of 2,370 caballerias planted. This year's plan, more than 3,560 caballerias, is expected to be completed by 15 October. Minaz noted that sugar refinery repairs are running behind schedule and that 2,000 additional men still need to be trained for the next harvest. The distance between cane plants will be reduced to less than 1.04 meters in an effort to plant more cane and reduce weeds. More than 1,500 independent farmers are being enlisted for sugarcane tasks.

Havana Radio Rebelde in Spanish at 1155 GMT on 9 September reports that a phase of the plan for agricultural labor by students and teachers known as "school in the countryside" [escuela al campo] has begun. The national mobilization plan estimates that more than 427,000 students and teachers will work at some 878 camps for 30-day or 45-day periods from September to June. The bulk of the student forces will support the miscellaneous crops program and other food program lines, while the young people from the eastern provinces and certain mountain areas are mainly supporting the coffee harvest. The students will also help with the citrus harvests in Matanzas, Cienfuegos, Camaguey, and Isle of Youth, as well as with the tobacco harvest in Pinar del Rio.

Radio Rebelde adds that the general staff for the student/teacher agricultural labor program [el estado mayor general de la escuela al campo], formed in August, has held its first work session, at which it studied the plan of visits to the students' work places and discussed the responsibilities of each institution making up this general staff. This general staff is in charge of directing, monitoring, and perfecting the student/teacher agricultural labor plan.

Alarcon Meets Japanese Authorities, Sectors

FL0909223692 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 9 Sep 92

[Text] During a meeting in Tokyo between Cuban Foreign Minister Ricardo Alarcon de Quesada and Japanese Permanent Deputy Foreign Minister Hisashi Owada, Cuba and Japan today agreed on the need to restructure the UN system and make it more democratic. Here is Yosi Jimenez to expand on this cable from the PRENSA LATINA office in Tokyo.

[Jimenez] A Cuban Embassy source has affirmed that during the second day of a working visit to Japan, our foreign minister met with Hisashi Owada at the Japanese Foreign Ministry in a friendly atmosphere, agreeing on important matters. The development of bilateral relations and the results of the summit of the Nonaligned Movement countries in Jakarta—which ended recently—were also topics discussed at this meeting, in which Cuban Ambassador to Japan Eduardo Delgado also participated.

Ricardo Alarcon had arrived in Tokyo from Jakarta yesterday. The purpose of his trip to Japan is to exchange opinions with various local sectors and authorities with a view to promoting bilateral ties and international cooperation between the two countries.

It has also been learned that during the Cuban foreign minister's intense work sessions, he also met with Deputy (Hiroshi Mitusaka), the president of the parliament's Japan-Cuba Friendship League and leader of the second-largest faction of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party. Alarcon also met with Deputy (Yoso Ishicana), the director of the international bureau of the Liberal Democratic Party, and participated in a luncheon hosted by Ambassador (Tensuke Terrada), who is the Foreign Ministry's director general for Latin America. This luncheon was also attended by prominent Japanese figures.

Vietnamese, Spanish Officials Depart

FL0909004192 Havana Cuba Vision Network in Spanish 2220 GMT 8 Sep 92

[Text] At 0130 on 8 September, two friends of Cuba met at Jose Marti International Airport: veteran Vietnamese fighter Dinh Nho and Jose Antonio Barroso Toledo, the mayor of Puerto Real, Spain. The two men were waiting for the airplanes that were to carry them back to their respective countries following a stay in Cuba during which they joined in the Cuban people's 26 July celebration.

The smiling Spanish mayor said: This is for Cuba. He insisted that solidarity with Cuba was needed now more than ever. The 89- year-old veteran fighter also said farewell with a sweet smile. A legendary hero, his eyes transported us to special moments in the history of the fraternal Socialist Republic of Vietnam. Those eyes also showed the admiration and respect he feels toward the Cuban people. It was an early morning of greetings, smiles, and farewells.

Castro Sends DPRK Leader Congratulatory Message

FL0909134292 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 9 Sep 92

[Text] On 8 September, President Fidel Castro sent a message to his Korean counterpart, Kim Il-song, on the occasion of the 44th anniversary of the DPRK. In his message, Fidel states that socialism will be victorious at the end of its long struggle. The message highlights the Cuban people's admiration for the great courage of the DPRK in defending, preserving, and developing the achievements of the revolution and socialism.

Fidel's message adds that Cuba, as well as the DPRK, will be able triumphantly to overcome the new processes even under the shadowed circumstances that mankind has created for itself. In the document, Fidel also expresses the desire of constantly developing the traditional ties of friendship and cooperation that have existed between the two countries.

Bilateral Relations With Indonesia Discussed

FL0709011492 Havana Tele Rebelde and Cuba Vision Networks in Spanish 0000 GMT 7 Sep 92

[Excerpt] Today, Juan Almeida Bosque, vice president of the Council of Ministers, met with Indonesian President Suharto. Cuban Ambassador Jorge Cubiles in Jakarta told PRENSA LATINA that during the meeting the future of bilateral relations was discussed. Suharto sent greetings to President Fidel Castro after receiving a similar message from the Cuban head of state.

The main topic of conversation between Suharto and Almeida focused on ties between Cuba and Indonesia in the framework of South-South cooperation. Recently, Cuban Foreign Minister Ricardo Alarcon and Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas signed a cooperation agreement that opens possibilities for new trade ties. [passage omitted]

Correction to Castro Moncada Barracks Assault Speech

PA1009225292

The following correction pertains to the item subheaded "Fidel Castro Speaks," published in the 9 September Latin America DAILY REPORT, pages 3-14:

Page 3, column 2, penultimate paragraph, last sentence make read: ...that was the Battle of Mal Tiempo, when the invading...(rewording, providing name of the battle)

Page 5, column 2, paragraph four, last sentence, make read: ...are discouraged, some become afraid, some give in...(rewording). Page 6, column 2, first full paragraph, first sentence, make read: ...effects was the widespread demoralization of the world's revolutionary movement and much confusion. We were not...(rewording)

Inter-Caribbean Affairs

OECS Economic Secretariat Chief Resigns

FL1009222092 Bridgetown CANA in English 1748 GMT 10 Sep 92

[Text] St. George's, Grenada, Sept 10, CANA—Head of the economic affairs secretariat of the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States [OECS], Grenadian Carl Mitchell, is giving up the job to return home, according to a senior government official.

"Dr. Mitchell will return to Grenada and take up a post with the government...," the official told CANA.

Mitchell, who was one of the architects of Grenada's structural adjustment programme, was hospitalized after collapsing at a meeting between the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and a Grenada delegation in Washington in June.

The official, who did not want to be identified, said Mitchell may be appointed adviser to the minister of finance, Prime Minister Nicholas Brathwaite.

Haiti

Minister Holds Conference on OAS Mission

FL1109000292 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1045 GMT 10 Sep 92

[Excerpts] There is a difference between the OAS civilian mission and the OAS-DEMOC mission. The foreign affairs minister of the Marc Bazin government was willing to clarify the difference at a news conference held at the Haitian Embassy on 8 September. Francois Benoit announced the arrival of 18 observers, sent by the OAS

to reduce violence and increase respect for human rights. Our reporter Rothchilds Francois Jr. has the following report:

[Begin recording] [Rothchilds] Far from being a failure, the Washington talks have been useful and constructive. This statement was made by the foreign affairs minister of the Bazin government. Francois Benoit, who met with a representative of Father Aristide, said the fact that Haitians can meet to discuss the Haitian crisis is positive.

The Haitian foreign affairs minister appeared confident before the press on Tuesday, 8 September, as he asserted that no formal agreement was signed by the two parties in Washington. Benoit spoke of the elaboration of an agreement and text, which has been approved by Father Adrien who has some reservations, however, about its semantic..

As for the government, there is no problem there. In this document, the minister of foreign affairs states that the presence of the OAS in Haiti appears to be necessary. Minister Benoit states that the word OAS/DEMOC is no longer used. [passage omitted]. This OAS civilian mission must work on issues such as the embargo, violence, and continuing negotiations.

[Benoit] The purposes of this presence and the tasks assigned the OAS members are first: to contribute to the reduction of violence wherever it is found and to contribute to reinforcing respect for human rights among all Haitians; second, to cooperate in the distribution of humanitarian aid to the Haitian people; and third, to evaluate progress made toward a political solution to the crisis. From there, they will discuss the possibility of modifying the embargo's terms.

This first OAS mission will be composed of 18 members, who will be sent throughout the Republic, two members per department. Finally, the secretary general has committed himself to periodically reviewing the situation, in light of the foreign affairs minister's recommendations, in order to submit to the OAS ad hoc committee, which is working on the Haitian crisis, the conclusions for their adoption.

[Rothchilds] Remember that the Number of OAS members could increase with the approval of the parties present in Washington on 1-4 September. Here, the foreign affairs minister announced that the government was going to contact parliament on the subject. Questioned about the Army's position on the OAS mission, Benoit contented himself by saying that the consensus government had received the mandate to negotiate, and to-date, everything was fine.

The following is a government account of the situation after the first round of discussions with the lavalas sector concluded.

[Benoit] The fact that the OAS invited us reflects other countries' perception that we are one of the players on the Haitian political scene with whom they must work. Also, the fact that President Aristide appointed someone to talk with us about the country's future political considerations constitutes acknowledgement of the need for Haitians to begin talking to one another and to find a solution to their problems together. That way, we retain both sides' willingness to find a peaceful solution to the crisis and above all, exchange opinions to closely complement one another within the national interest.

[Rothchilds] The foreign affairs minister of the Bazin government says that an Aristide-Bazin summit is inevitable. Francois Benoit announced that four countries have already offered to host this historical meeting. [end recording].

Bazin Accepts Mission

FL1009161492 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 10 Sep 92

[Report on news conference held by Foreign Minister Francois Benoit in Port-au-Prince on 9 September—live]

[Text] The government of Prime Minister Marc Bazin says it has agreed that the OAS send an 18-member civilian mission to Haiti, according to an announcement by the country's foreign minister, Francois Benoit, on the evening of 9 September. The task of the members of that mission will be to reduce the acts of violence, to guarantee respect for human rights, to participate in the distribution of humanitarian aid to Haiti, and to assess progress toward a political solution to the Haitian crisis and the possibilities for modifying the embargo, according to the minister's statement.

There will be two OAS representatives in each [geographic] department and that number can be increased under agreement by the Haitian parties, stated Foreign Minister Francois Benoit, who pointed out that the OAS 18-member (?mission) is not the OAS-DEMOC civilian mission that he said no longer exists. In Benoit's opinion, the fact that the OAS had invited him to participate in the meetings held in Washington last week shows that the consensus government has been acknowledged as a force on the Haitian political scene. No date has been set for the arrival of the mission. Diplomatic sources, however, say that it could take some time because of the necessary formalities.

We note that at the beginning of this week, the American daily THE NEW YORK TIMES said that the OAS leaders are waiting for an answer from the Haitian authorities so a civilian mission can be sent to Haiti, a mission whose purpose will be to end the acts of repression being committed against the people and to prepare the return to constitutional order in Haiti. The Haitian Government agreed a few days after a four-day meeting between the representative of the Marc Bazin government and the representative of ousted President Jean-Bertrand Aristide.

At the conclusion of the meeting, the representative of Father Aristide, Father Antoine Adrien, requested that

the OAS send a civilian mission to Haiti as soon as possible so as to prepare the return to power in Haiti of Father Aristide who is willing to enter the country before 30 September in order to restore democracy.

Finance Minister Presents '92-93 National Budget

FL1009222292 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 10 Sep 92

[Excerpts] The second point we will develop in the newscast today is that Finance Minister Weiner Fort appeared before the Chamber of Deputies yesterday afternoon to bring in the draft budget that the executive has prepared for fiscal year 1992-1993. A glance at this draft budget shows that the 1992-1993 budget does not count much on foreign funds because of the current political situation of the country. Authorities, however, do not rule out the possibility that this budget may grow in the event that the economic sanctions the international community has taken against Haiti are lifted. The 1992-1993 budget amounts to 1.543 billion gourdes. It has been increased by 7 percent in comparison with this year's budget, according to the finance minister who explained that it will be shared among the main administration offices.

[Begin Fort recording, in French] During fiscal year 1992-1993, the budget will amount to 1.543 billion gourdes of which 83 percent will be allotted to everyday expenses, 6.7 percent to expenses for the emergency program, 4.6 percent to subsidies, and 1.3 percent to servicing the public debt. By way of contrast, public expenditures for fiscal years 1990-1991 and 1991-1992 amounted to 1.361 billion and 1.372 billion gourdes, respectively. [passage omitted] [end recording]

The amount of money that will come from within the country for the 1992-1993 budget is 960 million gourdes. To raise this amount, the government needs 240 million gourdes, which it will collect as taxes. The finance minister, therefore, took the opportunity to bring in some bills on methods by which the government can increase its revenues during the coming year. In addition to measures to increase government revenues, measures will be taken in the administration offices. [sentence as heard] [passage omitted]

We will point out that the deputies will soon adjourn their working session and may not have time to vote on this draft budget. But the executive still has the possibility of convening them in extraordinary session under the provisions of the 29 March 1987 Constitution.

Contribution to IMF To Increase by 50 Percent

FL1009222192 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 10 Sep 92

[Text] Haitian Minister of Economy and Finances Weiner Fort also brought in before the Chamber of Deputies on 9 September an IMF resolution requesting that Haiti increase its yearly contribution to that fund by 50 percent. According to the minister of finances, that will allow the reinforcement of Haiti's financial position within this organism. The money that Haiti will give to the IMF will amount to 60.7 million Special Drawing Rights, in accordance with a yearly report the minister will provide.

Secretary Says NAFTA Not To Be Renegotiated

PA1109030792 Mexico City XHTV Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 11 Sep 92

[Report by Susana Castaneira]

[Text] Jaime Serra Puche, commerce and industrial development secretary, has stated that the Free Trade Agreement [NAFTA] signed by Mexico, the United States, and Canada will not be renegotiated. He told members of the Mexico City Chamber of Commerce who are participating in the seminar called Challenges and Opportunities for Organized Business that the treaty negotiations had concluded on 12 August and there was no turning back.

[Begin Serra recording] The negotiations have already ended. The agreement has already been officially announced by the Canadian, Mexican, and U.S. Governments. The negotiations have ended. [end recording]

Serra added that the statements made by U.S. Democratic Party members regarding a renegotiation of the treaty are part of the domestic debates that have taken place in Mexico, the United States, and Canada.

[Begin Serra recording] The debates between this man and other men [not further identified] in the United States are totally internal U.S. matters. We have made our announcements, and now we have our own debates, explanations, and research. We must concentrate on those things. [end recording]

Secretary Serra reported that the final text of NAFTA will be revealed in the next few weeks.

Privatization of National Port System Announced

PA0509013392 Mexico City Canal 13 Television Network in Spanish 1300 GMT 3 Sep 92

[Report by Hector Ramos]

[Text] On the president's instructions, the national port system, which is managed by Mexican Ports and nine parastate service enterprises, will be separated from the Communications and Transport Secretariat and privatized. The announcement was made by Andres Caso Lombardo, communications and transport secretary, and Pedro Aspe Armella, finance and public credit secretary.

[Begin Caso recording, in progress] ...so the national port system will be opened to private investment and, as a result, it can become more efficient in its activities, the Mexican president has instructed the Communications and Transport and the Finance and Public Credit Secretariats to pass the presidency of the administration council of these enterprises to the Finance and Public Credit Secretariat. [end recording]

That means Mexican Ports, a decentralized institution of the Communications and Transport Secretariat, will fall under the Finance Secretariat, which will carry out the privatization process to increase efficiency in that sector to benefit foreign trade. A communique stated that the first phase of a national port system reorganization and modernization plan has already been fulfilled. The Mexican Ports' financial statement up to 31 December 1991 showed property assets valued at 1.666 trillion pesos; a documented portfolio valued at 28.8364 billion pesos; a 60-day overdue portfolio valued at 213 million pesos; a portfolio in juridical proceedings of 1.209 billion pesos; and reserves of 5.252 billion pesos up to 31 August 1992.

Finance and Public Credit Secretary Pedro Aspe Armella spoke about the objectives of the privatization process of Mexican Ports.

[Begin Aspe recording] Once we have heightened competitiveness, we must quickly achieve international competitiveness, which is what the country's exporters and importers quite rightly request and demand. [end recording]

He said the process of privatization of Mexican Ports, in which the National Trust for Port Development is participating, will follow the guidelines of authority established by the Communications and Transport Secretariat and the law on parastate institutions.

[Begin Aspe recording] We will do so to increase the country's competitiveness. We will do it so the public sector can further concentrate on vital needs and so it can create opportunities for the private sector in areas in which it can enter under the guidelines of authority. [end recording]

The finance and transport secretaries also promised to respect the labor situation of Mexican Ports workers as established by law.

PRD Members Continue Protest in Morelia

PA0809143092 Mexico City XHTV Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 8 Sep 92

[Text] The demonstration staged by members of the Party of the Democratic Revolution [PRD] in front of the Government Palace in Morelia, Michoacan State, continues.

In Michoacan State, the PRD members who have staged a demonstration in front of the Government Palace and the State Congress have hardened their stand and taken over another building.

The demonstrators did not listen to reason and closed the State Press Office, which is located in the rear of the Government Palace, because they suspected that it was being used to bring food to the policemen guarding the Government Palace.

With this action, the PRD members stated they are blocking the entry of food for the policemen, whom they are also preventing from being relieved.

Michoacan State Government sources confirmed that the policemen guarding the Congress and the Government

Palace have not been relieved since 3 September and that, although they have some food stored, they have not been able to receive any more since 4 September.

Furthermore, traffic through the center of Morelia was complicated because the PRD members closed another street running along the side of the State Congress building.

Costa Rica

Court Dismisses Charges Against U.S. Citizens

PA0509024892 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 5 Sep 92

[Text] The Higher Penal Court of Liberia has dismissed all charges against four U.S. captains whose boats were confiscated about 95 miles off Punta Guiones on 14 August for alleged illegal fishing. The decision was in the hands of Court President Judge Luis Guillermo Rivas and lawyers Margot Rojas and Celso Gamboa, who voted in favor of the U.S. sailors. The boats may therefore sail from Costa Rica at any time.

It was learned that the Attorney General's Office also had requested that the charges against the foreigners be dismissed because there was no proof of piracy. The four boats were detained in Puntarenas while the captains stood trial. The Puntarenas Court had ordered their preventive arrest and indictment. The Puntarenas Court then declared that it could not handle the case because the boats had been detained closer to the Guanacaste legal jurisdiction. Consequently, the case was turned over to the Santa Cruz Common Court, but lawyer Anselmo Perez, the U.S. captains' attorney, presented an appeal that required the case to be handled by the Higher Penal Court of Liberia.

U.S. Ambassador Luis Guinot, Jr. said the U.S. Government is pleased with the Liberia court decision. He explained, however, that at no time did the difficulties with the boats have any bearing on the rejection of the PL-480 aid project.

Captain Michael Alan Peevy, accompanied by the ambassador, reiterated before the local press that the Costa Ricans had afforded them magnificent attention. As a result of the incident, two Costa Ricans are going to travel to the United States to become familiar with U.S. Coast Guard procedures.

The U.S. ambassador reiterated that the U.S. sailors had been illegally detained because faulty Costa Rican laws were applied. The ambassador was referring to Law Decree 20404, among others, which should be reviewed to prevent similar situations in the future. Luis Guinot, Jr. also reiterated that there had been a mistaken interpretation of international maritime legal agreements, because Costa Rica has a right to fish within a 200-mile limit, but it only has legal jurisdiction over 12 miles.

Counternarcotics Agreement Signed With Nicaragua

PA0509135092 San Jose LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 29 Aug 92 p 23A

[Report by Daniel Brenes and EFE News Agency]

[Text] The Nicaraguan and Costa Rican Governments on 28 August signed a cooperation agreement through which they will struggle against drug trafficking, cattle rustling, and illegal weapons trafficking, and deal with immigration affairs between the two nations.

Costa Rican Security Minister Luis Fishman, who is visiting the neighboring country, and General Humberto Ortega, chief of the Nicaraguan Army, agreed to strengthen both countries' control measures and surveillance at border posts and on river, sea, and land routes, with a view to combating the illegal trafficking of weapons, explosives, and provisions.

The agreement calls for both sides to exchange information on the illegal trafficking of weapons on their respective borders and on operational communications mechanisms, by "designating liaison officials to maintain coordination between the two countries."

The Security Ministry agreement with the Nicaraguan Army reaffirms both sides pledge not to allow their territories to be used by subversive groups and unconventional forces seeking to destabilize their respective governments.

The agreement signed by Fishman and his Nicaraguan counterpart establishes a common front against drugs, and Fishman proposed a meeting of their Central American counterparts in Costa Rica "to establish international cooperation policies."

This year so far the Costa Rican authorities have seized almost 2,000 kg of cocaine. The Nicaraguan struggle against drug trafficking has led to the confiscation of almost one ton of cocaine and other types of drugs.

El Salvador

Meeting With Honduran Deputy Minister 'Positive'

PA0809141592 San Salvador TCS Television Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 7 Sep 92

[Text] Deputy Foreign Minister Ricardo Valdivieso termed the meeting with his Honduran counterpart positive because it led to the formation of a bilateral commission that will study the cases of people living near the Honduran-Salvadoran border.

A few days before the International Court of Justice [ICJ] issues a ruling on the border issue between Honduras and El Salvador, the Honduran deputy foreign minister visited our country to meet with Salvadoran Foreign Ministry officials to discuss aspects regarding the border residents. According to Valdivieso, a special commission has been formed and will begin the operational phase in the coming week.

[Begin Valdivieso recording] The work of this binational commission is to report the concern of persons near the border or in disputed border areas; to answer questions; and listen to concerns regarding their citizenship status, their homes, and their lands. Their questions will be answered by the representatives of both countries as a single delegation. [end recording]

The delegation will be made up of different ministers, such as the finance, interior, and defense ministers, among others. The deputy foreign minister insisted that both Hondurans and Salvadorans must try to prepare to heed the ICJ ruling and not be led by voices of confrontation.

[Begin Valdivieso recording] At this moment, we must look to the future development of Central America. We must not heed those voices that still do not understand the reality of our region. [end recording]

The Salvadoran official denied there is a military presence in the zone of Meanguera. He said that after the ICJ ruling is made, the two commissions cannot initiate the demarcation of border areas.

FMLN Denies Connection to Clandestine Group

PA1009142492 San Salvador DIARIO LATINO in Spanish 8 Sep 92 p 2

[Text] While President Alfredo Cristiani and Defense Minister Rene Emilio Ponce have told of a new clandestine group connected to the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front], Commander Joaquin Villalobos has said that it is part of a psychological war.

The creation of the group was reported on 7 September and a communique stated that it was made up of former rebels and members of the Armed Forces "to halt the economic offensive launched by the ARENA [Nationalist Republican Alliance] government against the poorest sectors" and "in light of the incapability of the FMLN."

Cristiani presented two possible explanations: they are either FMLN dissidents, "and we believe that this is a strong possibility," or it could be "something carefully planned, as FMLN leaders have mentioned certain disagreements" with the peace accords, the president said.

The defense minister denied that any former members of the Armed Forces were members of the new revolutionary group, as there are no similarities in the ideals for which they fought during the war with the FMLN. They have formed this as they are carrying out this sort of activity so as not to dismantle their military structure."

The president and Ponce agree that the members of the new group, which has threatened to carry out sabotage activities against public transportation and power lines, will be treated as common criminals and will be placed under the full force of the law.

Commander Joaquin Villalobos, however, who read the FRS [Salvadoran Revolutionary Front] communique and, after a brief discussion, simply said that "the word 'top-brass' [cupula] is not part of our vocabulary, and I am 99.99 percent sure that this is a psychological war maneuver."

Guatemalan Rebel Leader Denies Arms Trafficking

PA0409210592 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Text] The Guatemalan guerrillas on 3 September in San Salvador denied that there is arms trafficking with the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN], as the Salvadoran Government and Armed Forces are saying.

Luis Becker, member of the political negotiating commission of the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity [URNG], has rejected the charges raised by the Salvadoran Government and Armed Forces which say the FMLN engages in arms trafficking with the Guatemalan guerrillas.

[Begin Becker recording] They have never been able to prove that either the FMLN or the Sandinist National Liberation Front—as it was said at one time—has ever given us even a single bullet. The same charges were raised in the past about the Cubans and the Russians. Therefore, I think that such charges will continue, but we flatly reject these charges as they are unfounded and false. [end recording]

Becker said that there are only brotherly and solidarity relations with the FMLN as well as with other revolutionary organizations in Latin America.

On the other hand, the member of the dialogue commission reported that no specific agreements were reached in the most recent meeting due to the stubborn attitude of the government of President Jorge Serrano.

[Begin Becker recording] Obviously, the agreements have to be bilateral. If we allow unilateral statements, such as the government seeks, these do not mean anything, they do not make any commitments. Then, during the rest of the negotiations, they, or we, could be making unilateral announcements or unilateral commitments that do not commit anyone. [ends recording]

In this, his second visit to El Salvador, Becker expects to meet with the FMLN leadership to exchange points of view about the peace process. In addition, he will meet with opposition political parties and some trade unions.

FMLN Delegation Tours Spain, Europe

PA0909035592 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1200 GMT 9 Sep 92

[Text] The Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] delegation headed by Commander Shafik Handal that is currently in Europe has been meeting with various groups in Spain, a rebel source in San Salvador has stated.

Handal met with members of the Spanish Defense Ministry, the Spanish Socialist Workers Party, and the United Left. The meeting was held within the framework of a political-diplomatic tour the FMLN is conducting in various European countries to explain how the peace

agreements are being fulfilled and to seek assistance for the reconstruction of El Salvador.

Guatemala

Government-Rebel Talks To Resume After 17 Sep

PA1009173792 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1640 GMT 10 Sep 92

[Text] Guatemala City, 10 Sep (ACAN-EFE)—The National Reconciliation Commission (CNR) announced on 10 September that the resumption of the peace talks scheduled for 11 September between the Guatemalan Government and guerrillas in Mexico has been postponed for the second half of September.

According to CNR spokesman Julio Mendizabal, the talks were postponed because of the independence day festivities of Guatemala on 15 September and Mexico on 16 September.

The dialogue between the "commanders" of the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity (URNG) and the government's peace commission led by Manuel Conde may resume after 17 September.

Mendizabal, however, said there is no official date for restarting the peace talks that began in Mexico in April 1991.

Conde said the [words indistinct] is proposing the possibility of holding the negotiations in Europe (Spain or Norway). He said the government is "grateful" for the offer from several countries but it believes Mexico offers the best conditions for the dialogue.

Could Resume 18 Sep

PA1109005292 Guatemala City SIGLO VEINTIUNO in Spanish 10 Sep 92 p 3

[Text] Manuel Conde, president of the government delegation, reported on 9 September that the government has taken it for granted that the next round of talks with the guerrillas in Mexico will be postponed as it has been impossible to confirm their resumption for 11 September.

Conde explained that the government was expecting to hear from mediator Monsignor Rodolfo Quezada Toruno on 9 September so that he could confirm the time and date of the new meeting with the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity [URNG] general command.

It was agreed during the previous meeting that the next meeting would be held on 11 September, but it also was agreed that there would be no talks on election days or during other special events such as the independence day festivities [15 September], the official said, adding that he has not ruled out the possibility of resuming talks on 18 September.

He confirmed that the URNG suggested the option of holding negotiations in Europe, and we the government "have thanked the various countries for their offers to host the talks. However, we feel that Mexico offers the best conditions because, among other reasons, it is nearby."

As for the National Army plans to bring the guerrilla leadership to trial, Conde pointed out that this issue has been discussed with the URNG and, in this case, the defense minister answered a rebel announcement. [sentence as published]

He emphasized, however, that "a verbal battle does not help the negotiation process, so we have talked it over with the URNG leadership. We must talk about points of understanding, not of things that will cause us to drift apart."

Meanwhile, rebel leader Miguel Angle Sandoval said that "our country's Armed Forces and security corps are constantly violating human rights, and that is what is hindering the negotiating process with Jorge Serrano's government."

He rejected as untrue the government's remarks that the URNG is making the talks more difficult with its stalling tactics.

"It is not words that hinder the development of talks, but the government security corps' repeated human right violations" Sandoval said.

He emphasized that the URNG does not want to provoke delays, but it seeks to establish specific agreements with the government so that a basic respect for human rights will prevail in Guatemala, an ENFOPRENSA report states.

Guerrilla Leader Surrenders to Authorities

PA1109023992 Guatemala City EL GRAFICO in Spanish 10 Sep 92 p 58

[Text] After 11 years in the guerrilla ranks, an administrative chief of the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity, URNG, turned himself in to the Army and took advantage of the amnesty law.

Tomas Velasquez Xon joined the guerrillas with his family. After 11 years, however, he decided to quit.

He was presented to the Guatemalan press on 9 September at the Santa Cruz del Quiche military zone headquarters by the Quiche Department military chief.

Speaking to journalists, Velasquez said he publicly asked the Army to protect him and his family so they can lead a normal life.

He stated that initially he joined the ranks of the combatants in Quiche Department, but he later performed political-administrative activities.

Minister on Human Rights Charges, Lawsuits

PA1009193292 Guatemala City SIGLO VEINTIUNO in Spanish 8 Sep 92 p 3

[Text] General Jose Garcia Samayoa, the defense minister, on 7 September warned he intends to coordinate with the Foreign Ministry on legal actions against persons or international human rights organizations that have accused the Army of perpetrating massacres.

The military leader specifically referred to a recent article published in the U.S. magazine NEWSWEEK with statements by U.S. anthropologist Clyde Snow, who led the special team that discovered clandestine cemeteries in El Quiche.

"We note with concern how foreign interference has increased in this case, jeopardizing not only Guatemalan independence and sovereignty, but also issuing direct charges," Gen. Garcia said.

Gen. Garcia said he will consult the attorney general and the Foreign Ministry, to study mechanisms which allow the filing a lawsuit against slanderers, because this type of accusation must be proved.

He said he was surprised to hear subversive groups have reported executions; adding: Where are their dead? The subversive groups should be asked the same question. Where have you buried your dead? It is strange how (the anthropologists) come straight to the common graves and open them.

He said the URNG [Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity] has installed a human rights office in Carouge, near Geneva; and it is run by Mary Vandemberg, a Netherlander who also calls herself Ann Mayer.

The military officer referred to the recent arrival of URNG member Jorge Rosal, who is also part of the human rights comission, which the rebels call the URNG's political branch.

"I imagine once they complete a course on aggression, kidnapping, terrorism, and destruction, they are given a different status—political, ideological, or something like that. They are in charge of this type of accusation," the minister added.

He warned his office will seek legal mechanisms to demand (U.S. anthropologist Clyde Snow) prove his accusations.

"I definitely demand the rebel groups clarify where they have buried their dead, meaning the ones they executed in the 1960s, 1970s, and 1980s. It would be interesting to know. I think it is worrisome they only issue slanderous charges," Garcia Samayoa said.

The minister confirmed his nephew Carlos Augusto Rivera Garcia was arrested by the authorities this weekend while traveling with other university students—because he did not carry his identity papers.

"I was immediately notified but we must set an example. The strange thing would have been for the minister to send someone to get him and cover up the whole thing, but there is a law and it must be enforced."

His parents were notified—he is my sister's son—and they paid his attorney's fee, a 39-quetzals fine, and he was released. All because he was not carrying papers.

Documents are for identification purposes and the laws must be enforced. "My relatives, friends, and subordinates know my only friend is the law, and I make no exceptions," he warned.

Army Establishes Post at Santa Catarina

PA1109041292 Guatemala City Teleonce Television in Spanish 0330 GMT 8 Sep 92

[Text] The Army has established a military post in Santa Catarina, Ixtahuacan, Solola Department as a result of recent incidents staged by civilian patrolmen in Guineales village in that municipality. Defense Minister General Jose Domingo Garcia Samayoa reported that the patrolmen's weapons were seized.

[Begin recording] [Garcia] I had a meeting with municipal officials and some honorable citizens from Santa Catarina. We talked with them and reached an agreement whereby a military post has been established in that area. The weapons held by the people of Guineales have been turned over to the military post for safekeeping.

The case has been solved. We have implemented the Defense Ministry's orders, which is what should have been done in the first place. I told them I know very well what my obligations are.

Orders were issued for the vice minister, acting as my personal representative, as well as members from the General Staff and from the 13th, 14th, and 16th military zones to take action. The case is closed.

[Unidentified reporter] [question indistinct]

[Garcia] He is in Guineales for the time being while peace and tranquillity are being restored. Everything is under the control of the military commanders of that region. [end recording]

Police Seize FMLN Weapons, Ammunition

PA0509044592 Guatemala City EL GRAFICO in Spanish 4 Sep 92 p 5

[Text] Weapons and ammunition belonging to the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] of El Salvador were seized on 3 September by members of the Criminal Investigations Department of the National Police. The weapons and ammunition were found during an investigation being carried out in Bethania neighborhood, Zone Seven, Guatemala City.

Noel Armando Lopez, Jorge Alexander Virula, Juan Francisco Virula, and Edwin Oswaldo Gonzalez were arrested in the operation. In addition to the weapons and ammunition, police also seized some marijuana. In off-the-record statements, the arrested men said the weapons are being brought into Guatemala by Salvadoran guerrillas who have laid down their weapons. The weapons are then sold to common criminals in Guatemala.

Defense Minister Outlines Guerrilla Organization

PA0409153092 Guatemala City SIGLO VEINTIUNO in Spanish 1 Sep 92 p 3

[Text] The Guatemalan Army on 31 August denounced that foreign groups and individuals are meddling in the country's domestic affairs, and reiterated that the Communities of People in Resistance (CPR) are being manipulated politically by the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity (URNG).

The above was expressed by Defense Minister Domingo Garcia Samayoa at a news conference during which he denied assertions by the Multipartite Commission which visited the area of Ixcan, El Quiche last week.

According to Garcia Samayoa, there are foreigners who come to Guatemala to stir up the people and meddle in the government's administrative policy. They criticize us and make statements that foster disrespect for our sovereignty and independence, he added.

Although he refused to identify the foreign groups or individuals, Garcia Samayoa asserted that they are sheltered by certain organizations which is unusual, abusive, and disrespectful.

Rejecting and explaining the Multipartite Commission's assertions to the effect that the Army had bombed areas occupied by civilians, particularly the CPR, Colonel Otto Perez, of the General Staff, described to the press the manner in which the guerrillas organized the CPR, as well as the manner in which they manipulate them.

He pointed out that the Army is aware of the existence of civilians in the mountainous areas of El Quiche as well as in Ixcan but, he said, they are being used.

Perez said that in 1988 the Poor People's Guerrilla Army (EGP) changed its strategy and tactics and organized what they called the Communities of People in Resistance.

The guerrillas organized the CPR, he added, an oustanding feature of which are the Local Guerrilla Forces [Fuerzas Guerrilleras Locales—FGL], whose mission is to take care of the population. They have also formed Area Committees, which issue instructions to the FGL and the people regarding the guidelines they are to follow. Then there are the Zonal Administration Organizations [Organizacion de Direccion Zonal—ODZ] and the National Commission for Organization and Labor [Comision Nacional de Organizacion y de Trabajo], he said.

Col. Perez asserted that the Armed Forces are making every effort to rescue the people who are being held by the guerrillas, but they are being used by the EGP for their own benefit and in an attempt to survive.

Present at the conference were soldiers and Armed Forces specialists who were wounded in combat, as well as CPR townspeople who have surrendered to the authorities.

The Multipartite Commission refused to paticipate in the news conference organized by the Defense Ministry, arguing that they were invited by the defense minister to a private meeting, not a public one. According to Associate Human Rights Attorney Cesar Alvarez Guadamuz, when the defense minister announced the Commission's position regarding the CPR situation last week, he invited the commission to a private meeting during which, allegedly, the problem would be resolved.

Nevertheless, he added, 45 minutes before the meeting I was informed that a news conference would be held and we refused to participate because the purpose of a news conference is quite different to that of a private meeting.

What we have here is a difference of opinion, said Alvarez Guadamuz in reference to the current situation of the CPR's, because while we maintain that they are mostly civilians, the Army asserts that they are subversives.

CACIF Opposes Ratification of Indian Agreement

PA0909184992 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 5 Sep 92 p 6

[Text] Independent Deputy Diego Velasco has stated that the Coordinating Committee of Farming, Commercial, Industry, and Financial Associations [CACIF] opposes the ratification of Agreement 169 on indigenous and tribal peoples in independent countries.

He also said that, although 11 organizations agree with the ratification, the Ministry of Defense has proposed the creation of a multi-sector commission to study the agreement before it is ratified.

The organizations that are willing to go along with the ratification are INTA [National Institute of Agrarian Reform], the Human Rights Ombudsman's Office, CEAR [Special Commission For Assistance to Repatriates], IGSS [Guatemalan Social Security Institute], the ministries for public health and social welfare, education, energy and mines, urban and rural development, government, labor and social security, as well as the judicial branch, he added.

In addition, Deputy Francisco Reyes Lopez, member of the Foreign Relations Commission, said that in a session of this commission it was agreed to study Agreement 169

in depth because it deals with delicate matters such as land ownership, opportunities for Indian peoples, and others. The commission has two weeks to express an opinion. A final decision will be announced later.

Furthermore, according to Memorandum 107 of the Foreign Ministry, CACIF opposes the ratification because this agreement "exceeds ILO's objectives, purposes, and field by stepping into criminal and agrarian law, and frequently into civil law by referring to aspects closely related to property ownership."

According to Velasco Brito, it is necessary to take into account that this agreement stipulates that the government must establish instruments for the development of the Indian peoples. (Paragraph C, Article 6).

In its conclusion, the Foreign Ministry document says: "From a juridical viewpoint, this ministry believes that, although the agreement does not violate the Constitution, strictly speaking, it could lead to misinterpretations that might run against its spirit." The document says further: "There are no legal objections for Guatemala to ratify this agreement. Nevertheless, because the scope of the agreement's stipulations has not been clearly defined and also because of the importance of the commitments that our country would make by endorsing it, we suggest that the proposal presented by the Defense Ministry be considered first."

Velasco Brito said the objection presented by the Army is the fact that the majority of Army members are poor Indians. There is also the problem to be encountered by PAC [Civilian Self-Defense Patrols], as well as the recruitment in the country's interior.

The deputy said finally that it would be regrettable for Guatemala not to ratify the agreement because 60 percent of the country's population are Indians.

Honduras

Callejas, Cristiani Interviewed on ICJ Ruling

PA1009124592 Tegucigalpa Telesistema Hondureno Television Network in Spanish 0300 GMT 9 Sep 92

[Interview with Salvadoran President Alfredo Cristiani at the Canal Cuatro Television studio in San Salvador and Honduran President Rafael Leonardo Callejas at the Telesistema Hondureno Television studio in Tegucigalpa by Carlos Riedel and Edgardo Melgar on the "Topics and News" program; individual questioners not identified—live]

[Excerpts] [Reporter] Good evening President Cristiani. The first question is for you. What is the prevailing mood among the Salvadoran public as we are about to hear the International Court of Justice [ICJ] ruling on 11 September.

[Cristiani] In my country there is a desire to close one chapter and begin a new one. It is a desire to begin a chapter with the brotherhood that should prevail among the Salvadoran and Honduran people so that together they can progress and have a better future. I think that in El Salvador we see this as a chapter that is closing in the peace process and a new chapter that is opening with brotherhood and prosperity for our peoples.

[Reporter] You do not feel there is a negative climate in anticipation of the ICJ ruling on 11 September?

[Cristiani] Not in any way. I think in my country everyone is awaiting the ICJ ruling with the feeling that this is the closing of a chapter and the opening of a new one.

[Reporter] President Callejas, what is the climate in Honduras? What is the prevailing mood among the public?

[Callejas] First of all, I would like to greet my good friend, Salvadoran President Alfredo Cristiani, with whom I share the vision of a united Central America. On 11 September, the ICJ will resolve a lengthy dispute between Honduras and El Salvador. The prevailing mood in our country is one of confidence that the ruling will define, once and for all, a border which in the past caused conflict. There is expectation and there is interest but above all, there is clear determination that the ICJ ruling will conclude one phase and open a new phase, as President Cristiani said. It is a new phase in which, together, we can create the best options for our nations through a new vision, the vision of a united Central America.

[Reporter] What should be the role of the Honduran and Salvadoran Armed Forces after the ICJ ruling?

[Callejas] Their role will be to guarantee the security of the property and the citizens who, after the delimitation ruling will find themselves on one side or the other of the Honduran-Salvadoran border. With the basic aim of guaranteeing the ruling, the Salvadoran president and I have signed agreements establishing a binational commission for humanitarian issues. Salvadoran President Duarte and Honduran President Azcona had reached agreement on this commission in 1986. We confirmed the need for this commission. On 10 September, this commission will be visiting some of the areas that will be the object of the ICJ ruling. In Honduras, this commission is formed by the government, foreign, and defense ministers and representatives of the church leadership and the Honduran Red Cross. It will have the mission of providing information and receiving reports of the problems of the individual citizens who find themselves in the border areas. Therefore, the role of the Armed Forces is simply to guarantee the security of the people and property.

[Reporter] President Cristiani, what role should the Salvadoran Armed Forces play after the ICJ ruling? After the ruling is handed down there will be no border problems that might create a hostile climate.

[Cristiani] As our good friend Rafael Leonardo Callejas said, each country's Armed Forces must watch over security and peace within its own territory. We believe the ICJ ruling should set a precedent, and we should all respect it. Many have speculated about who will be negatively affected by the ruling. I imagine that is the reason for the question on the Armed Forces. I would like to say once and for all that the Armed Forces of El Salvador and Honduras do not have a role to play in this decision. Our Armed Forces must guarantee sovereignty, security, and peace within our own territories. If both countries agreed to have the conflict settled by the ICJ, our peoples should accept its decision. For the good of our peoples' futures, we should not think this decision will negatively affect us and that the Armed Forces should play a role. The Salvadoran Armed Forces' role will be to support the Salvadoran Government's role.

[Reporter] We have seen in our country that some sectors do not want the ruling to be accepted fully and do not want the 11 September ceremony to be held where you will meet with President Cristiani in Amatillo. Are there people interested in politicizing this ruling?

[Callejas] Since October 1980 when a peace agreement was signed by Honduras and El Salvador and we proceeded to submit our dispute to the ICJ, we accepted that the ruling cannot be appealed and that we are going to respect it in keeping with international law and good faith. It is important that we establish this. We submitted ourselves to the ICJ's jurisdiction. Therefore, there is no other path to follow here. It is a ruling that cannot be appealed. The Honduran and Salvadoran Governments are obliged to respect and implement the ruling in good faith. Those sectors should not even analyze this topic from a political viewpoint because it involves decisions we made many years ago. We must delimit our border. That will occur on 11 September. On 11 September a very solemn but simple ceremony will be held. President Cristiani and I will attend a ceremony of commitment between the Honduran and Salvadoran peoples and governments. We will establish the end of a phase and the beginning of another phase. It will mark our countries' respect for the ICJ ruling. It is important to stress that many conflicts in the world are resolved through means other than justice and international law. These two Central American nations, El Salvador and Honduras, took the path of law, and we will respect that ruling.

[Reporter] If there is no trouble at the border areas and if there are not any military problems, Mr. Cristiani, what chances are there for the two countries to begin projects and follow up the ICJ ruling, considering that economic development is low in these border areas? What chances are there for El Salvador and Honduras to carry out projects to develop this area?

[Cristiani] I believe a new stage in relations between El Salvador and Honduras will begin on 11 September. So far it has been impossible for the two countries to be true friends. Tonight I would like to ask Honduras and El Salvador to turn the page, so to speak, and develop as friendly peoples from now on. These two peoples who have suffered so much and who must face so many challenges outside our own borders should forget things that should have already been forgotten. From now on the people who live in the border towns, beyond the mere geographical borders, regardless of which towns are designated by the ICJ from the Caribbean to the Pacific coast, the Salvadoran and Honduran peoples should seek ways to forge ahead together in steady development for the good of both peoples. That is the challenge the two nations face. We should not look backward but ahead. The two nations should try to meet the challenge represented by the development of our peoples. Let us not look at the borders exclusively. Let us look at the whole of the two territories. We are Central Americans and friends, and we can help each other forge ahead. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] President Cristiani: You have said that after 11 September we will turn a page in history and will now have to face mainly economic challenges; that is, the challenge to overcome poverty. Given the similarity in their cultures, in their way of speaking, it has been said that the Honduran and Salvadoran people also have a similar problem: poverty. After the ICJ ruling, Mr. Cristiani, how can we take advantage of and exploit jointly our maritime areas in the Gulf of Fonseca?

[Cristiani] There are so many ways to take advantage jointly of the opportunities that development can offer us. We do not necessarily have to confine ourselves to one geographic area like the Gulf of Fonseca, the Pacific, or the Atlantic Ocean. We need the two peoples to discontinue confronting each other as enemies with a border dividing them. More and more, we should be locked in an embrace as brothers with no border separating us. I do not think we should limit to one specific area our joint efforts to benefit our people. There is so much that Honduras and El Salvador can do for each other. We must not miss the opportunity being presented to us now. All over, nations are looking toward unity, to form blocs, to integrate. El Salvador and Honduras, which have so much in common, should join in a fraternal embrace and look for solutions for our people. To the extent that we unite and develop together, we can make common plans, as you said, in the Pacific. We can talk about development plans in the Pacific; we can talk about development plans, such as the one mentioned by President Callejas for that dry canal between the Caribbean Sea and the Pacific Ocean. We can talk about developing hydroelectric plants. We can talk about the development of so many things. We should not limit ourselves to a specific area. Rather, we should think that this closes a chapter in history and opens up much greater possibilities, much more optimistic ones, for another chapter in the fraternal relationship between Honduras and Salvador.

[Reporter] President Cristiani, how will you handle the situation if it is confirmed that the Farabundo Marti

National Liberation Front [FMLN] guerrillas occupy some of the disputed border areas?

[Cristiani] The Salvadoran Government is prepared to accept the ICJ ruling in good faith. No matter what sector is involved, whether the FMLN or some other sector, the Salvadoran Government is going to obey the court ruling. Whether it is the FMLN, private individuals, or some other group, we will try to accommodate them within El Salvador if they want to be inside El Salvador. In addition, there is the bilateral commission, which could seek a bilateral solution so each of those affected can make the best choice. The FMLN will not affect the Salvadoran Government's decision.

[Reporter] President Callejas, is there concern over the possibility that the ICJ ruling could create a climate other than a peaceful one?

[Callejas] Not at all. We in Honduran society are aware that we have pledged obedience to the ICJ and that we must obey its ruling. I do not think this obedience will create a confrontation. Quite the contrary. The great majority of the Honduran people are aware that it is imperative for Honduras to define its borders. Consequently, Honduras will accept the ruling in good faith, based on the agreements we signed, as well as the later pledges that led to the ruling to be announced on 11 September.

[Reporter] Mr. President, there has been some debate, even here on the program, regarding what will happen with the marine areas in conflict and the exploitation of marine areas in the Gulf of Fonseca. Some say El Salvador could win and Honduras could lose or obviously vice versa.

The question we asked President Cristiani is: How can the joint exploitation of that area be guaranteed? Just as mutual cooperation programs could be implemented to improve the economic situation of the people inhabiting the disputed areas, how could the Gulf of Fonseca be exploited?

[Callejas] Among Central American countries we already have experience in cooperation programs and we can continue to develop joint plans to exploit and develop these areas or others.

We have worked on joint projects, not only in the Trifinio Plan but in health care projects and electricity interconnection in some areas on the border with Guatemala. We are building a road between Omoa and Puerto Barrios to integrate our port services. We have created a Solidarity Park between Honduras and Nicaragua. There are so many possibilities. With Alfredo Cristiani and the Central American president we have discussed the importance of helping to create a single Central American airline; we discussed the future of telecommunications.

We have accepted in bilateral agreements with Guatemala and El Salvador—and discussed this very much with Alfredo [Cristiani]—the need to be able to find financial alternatives to allow the use of Salvadoran and Guatemalan capital in Honduras and vice versa. The cooperation mechanisms are in place and those cooperation mechanisms will be eased, improved, and accelerated as a consequence of a decision that will produce the border demarcation. This is to say that the mechanisms already exist, there is already a prospect for a united Central America.

States are now participating in regional blocs, borders as such—as in this program—are eliminated by the media and telecommunications. There are no borders in this dialogue I am having with the Salvadoran president, with you, and with the Honduran people. There is a real and tangible rapprochement. We must realize that times have changed a lot and that by marking our borders we have greater possibilities for implementing development projects and plans for common benefit.

[Reporter] Do you think there will be winners and losers when the border dispute between Honduras and El Salvador is resolved?

[Callejas] In this specific case, we will accept the court's decision. When a court issues a ruling, there are no winners or losers. Simply, the parties that submitted the case to the court must accept the ruling and abide by it.

[Reporter] So there are no winners or losers?

[Callejas] We should not see it that way.

[Reporter] President Cristiani: How will the demarcation of borders affect the future of the Central American common market and regional integration?

[Cristiani] The integration process, which has advanced during the past few years, obviously requires political stability. The settling of the border dispute between El Salvador and Honduras will bring more stability to the region. If anything can contribute to promote economic integration, it is stability. We believe the ruling should bring stability to the region. President Callejas was asked if there will be winners or losers when the court announces its decision. I fully agree with him. There should only be winners. We will all be winners. Political stability in the region can only bring benefits for all. Rivalries among us only delay our development. Resolving problems that have existed in the past through a civilized process—as we all wish—can only bring benefits. I agree 100 percent with President Callejas in the sense that the court's ruling can only bring benefits to our peoples and to Central America. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] President Cristiani, television viewer Armando Pavon called to ask you what the FMLN thinks about the ICJ ruling?

[Cristiani] I have really not asked the FMLN what they think about it. The Salvadoran Government made its own decision, which is that we are going to accept the ruling in good faith. This has been a national project of the Salvadoran people. Those who wanted to join th

national project have done so. Those who did not want to join the project have not done so. I have no doubt that—even though I have not asked the FMLN—what we want in El Salvador is peace. We do not only want internal peace, but we want peace with our next door neighbor. We cannot allow any group, let alone individuals, to prevent us from gathering as friends and seeking solutions to our peoples in a joint manner. Once this ruling is part of history and once we have engaged in development activities, the better off we will be. I am sure the FMLN and every other Salvadoran group favors closing this chapter.

[Reporter] President Callejas, will we be able to achieve the dreams of former President Jose Maria Medina, who in 1874 wanted to form a single nation out of these two countries?

[Callejas] I would like to go even further back in history to the feelings and vision of our most extraordinary forefather, General Francisco Morazan. On 3 October we will celebrate the 200th anniversary of Francisco Morazan's birth. His dream and vision was of a Central American republic. Those of us who came later in history, those of us who will be celebrating Morazan's 200th birthday, cannot stop dreaming of a single Central American nation. I would like this dream to come true. I hope that during my lifetime we will see a united Central America both economically and politically.

[Reporter] President Callejas, how will the Honduran people be informed about the ICJ ruling?

[Callejas] We have come up with a long schedule for providing the information. It will be initiated at 0200 [0800 GMT] on 11 September, when the ICJ judge will begin reading the ruling. There will be a national radio and television network, which will end following the solemn meeting at El Amatillo between President Alfredo Cristiani and myself. Distinguished officials of the Honduran Foreign Ministry, such as Pedro Pineda Madrid, will attend the meeting. They will be providing information on the ruling to all Hondurans, to the entire people. This national network will be receiving information continuously from The Hague from 0200 until 1200 on 11 September.

[Reporter] President Cristiani, what is your government's position regarding the ruling and what actions will it take if the FMLN does not accept the ruling?

[Cristiani] We have repeatedly stated that our government will accept the ICJ ruling. Our position is that we must act in good faith. We must act positively. We are not going to allow one group to attempt to prevent our Central America from being strong. For Central America to be strong, the peoples of Honduras and El Salvador must unite. We feel this border dispute must end. We must seek unity, not separation. We must not allow any group to divert us from our goal, Central American unity. This unity begins on 11 September with the unity between the Salvadoran and Honduran peoples. [passage omitted]

Nicaragua

Chamorro Rejection of 'Board of Notables' Eyed

PA1009164592 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 8 Sep 92 p 7

[Editorial: "An Honorable Rejection That Deserves Support"]

[Text] President Violeta Chamorro disclosed on 7 September that John Maisto, the U.S. State Department official in charge of Central America, tried to impose a "Board of Notables" to supervise her government's actions.

The Bush envoy's idea is not new. It had been suggested previously in the "DeMoss Note" written by Senator Helms' staff as a condition for the disbursement of half of the withheld $104 million. Maisto has endorsed it as the official policy of his goverenment. This is extremely dangerous not only for Nicaragua but for all of Latin America which should feel threatened by this brutal act of intervention.

The president's categorical rejection of the U.S. meddling establishes a precedent of sovereignty in her administration. To some extent, it reverses a negative trend observed on other occasions.

Chamorro has sent a clear message to Washington, defining the limits of what will be tolerated in her relations of cooperation with the U.S. Government. With great dignity, she has stated she would rather be left without money than to submit to the humiliation of selling the country's autonomy and her presidential mandate.

Her response brings disgrace to presidential candidate George Bush and Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger for committing such a diplomatic blunder.

It is unprecedented for an ally to propose to a friendly government that it accept a technical coup d'etat in exchange for money. But it is even more shocking that the attack was unleashed less than 24 hours after the friendly country was hit by the tragedy of a tidal wave. That, no more, no less, is what the U.S. envoy did.

Chamorro can capitalize on this unsuccessful "low blow" by asserting her moral authority before the international community and the U.S. Congress. She has more than enough right to make known the diplomatic incident with Maisto. Let us hope her subordinates in the government will imitate her courage and integrity.

Nicaragua cannot yield to U.S. pressures. Bush is not keeping his promise to support the government's national reconciliation policy. His policy has been replaced by Senator Helms' extremism, sending a terrible message to the peace processes in El Salvador and Guatemala. He no longer has an excuse to continue delaying the disbursement of the $104 million. If the

country collapses tomorrow amid economic instability, it will be solely his responsibility.

In the domestic arena, the president's attitude represents an invitation to join forces to defend the nation's independence and to continue resisting intervention. The failed U.S. attack revealed a shameful plot that must be rejected vigorously. We all know the names of the famous "notables" who, pretending to be scandalized, were ready to stab the president in the back.

Lacayo Calls U.S. Ties 'Very Constructive'

PA1109040292 Managua Sistema Nacional de Television Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 8 Sep 92

[Text] Presidency Minister Antonio Lacayo has said that relations with the United States are normal and based on mutual respect.

[Begin Lacayo recording] Obviously some groups in Nicaragua are assigning too much importance to a report presented by Mrs. De Moss. We are talking basically about a report presented by a senator's aide, not even by the senator himself because he is ill. Some people try to make it seem as if the report were presented by an official spokesperson of the United States, but that is really not the case. Our relations with the United States are conducted through the State Department, and those relations have always been excellent.

During his most recent trip to Nicaragua, John Maisto, U.S. under secretary of state for Central America, reiterated to President Chamorro the U.S. Government's full support for her government, particularly in the difficult times Nicaragua is experiencing following the 1 September tidal wave. Therefore, I would say relations are normal, good, and very constructive, just as relations between two democracies should be. [end recording]

Lacayo clarified that President Chamorro's statements rejecting pressure do not at all affect relations with the United States.

[Begin Lacayo recording] I think things must be said clearly, and that is how Violeta spoke to the U.S. officials. This should not be any surprise for them. We believe that when relations are based on mutual respect, things should be clearly stated. [end recording]

Lacayo reiterated his confidence that the U.S. assistance will arrive in September.

[Begin Lacayo recording] Mr. Maisto also told Violeta that the State Department is very interested in making the disbursement possible at this time as they are well aware of Nicaragua's commitments to the international organizations in September. [end recording]

Daniel Ortega on U.S. Conditions for Aid

PA0909153692 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 8 Sep 92 p 8

[Article by Juan Jose Lacayo]

[Text] Daniel Ortega, secretary general of the FSLN [Sandinist National Liberation Front], again condemned on 7 September the U.S. attitude for imposing conditions on the Nicaraguan Government and said the attitude of the Chamorro government—to give in to such pressures—"sets a dangerous precedent that could also encourage the State Department and U.S. ultra-rightists to demand changes in the Army and the Supreme Court in the next few weeks or months."

Ortega made such comments after meeting with a Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) delegation, which informed him about the obstacles facing the Salvadoran peace process.

"What the United States is doing in Nicaragua is a threat to the peace process in El Salvador and Guatemala," according to the Sandinist leader, who added "the United States has a huge responsibility to contribute to peace in Central America."

"We hope President George Bush fulfills the promise he made to the Chamorro government to disburse the aid in exchange for the dismissal of the police chief," Ortega said.

He emphasized the flexibility shown by the Sandinists in this crisis and added "the FSLN should not be blamed if the aid does not come and if it does come, it has undoubtedly made a contribution."

Asked about President Chamorro's remark that he should "zip up his mouth because he is no longer president," Ortega initially declined to comment, but at the insistence of journalists, he said "we all know how Mrs. Chamorro is."

"The most important thing, he added, is that we should be clear that we are facing foreign pressure, Yankee pressure, which is strong. It is important for all Nicaraguans to unite to face the U.S. policy of intervention. We must face that pressure and defend the rights of the Nicaraguan people to make our own decisions."

Ortega said, "We cannot be silent, we have a commitment to the people, to citizens' rights, and we have the duty to defend the country's sovereignty."

The Sandinist leader rejected the proposal to compensate people whose properties have been confiscated with stocks in government enterprises that could be privatized in the immediate future.

"We cannot accept government measures aimed at privatizing institutions such as the Nicaraguan Institute of Energy and the Nicaraguan Aqueducts and Sewage

Institute, where thousands of workers would be dismissed and the poorest of beneficiaries could be unprotected," Ortega said.

Commentary Views H. Ortega's Military Plans

PA1109022792 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 5 Sep 92 p 14

[Commentary by Horacio Cruz: "A Difference of Thousands]

[Text] The size of Nicaragua's Armed Forces and the magnitude of its future effect on the nation's economy continues to be an unknown quantity, especially after the casual remarks made on 2 September by EPS [Sandinist People's Army] General Humberto Ortega. The general's statements, which were published by BARRICADA, were not amply disseminated because he made them at a time when the country's attention was focused on the 1 September tragedy and its aftermath.

The crucial point is that Gen. Ortega, once again referring to an issue that should have been addressed by President Violeta Chamorro, stated that "the Armed Forces reduction plan" had been completed and will not continue any longer. The general set the number of enlisted men at 17,000, which, according to him, would be the number of military personnel required by Nicaragua "for the next 20 years" when "our comrades will have accomplished their task just as we have accomplished ours".

In another especially interesting point, Gen. Ortega pointed out that he is now preparing to undertake the task of modernizing the Armed Forces, which will be in a position to absorb all the people it needs at an appropriate moment when the national defense so requires.

Statements such as these call for serious evaluation and reflection, not because of their commendable patriotic content, but because they conflict with other predicaments typical of our country. It would seem to indicate that the EPS, supposedly consisting of 17,000 men—a number significantly larger than the Nicaraguan National Guard, which never exceeded 12,000—would be remodeled in order to fluidly incorporate the thousands of "reserves" [retirados activos] and even everyday civilians for "national defense" in case of an emergency.

Everyone in Nicaragua knows well that for the Sandinists, the Armed Forces, because of their name and essence, continue to be precisely that; Sandinist. The "national defense" has always meant defense of the Sandinist party's interests. Even though Gen. Ortega's statements may appear as mere emotional rhetoric more suitable for the troops, it really insinuates two probable scenarios. The first scenario deals with the Armed Forces taking on discharged paramilitary personnel who are connected to the Army both ideologically and in practice. The second scenario involves reinstating compulsory military service when they consider it to be necessary. That scenario would revive the endless suffering thousands of mothers had to endure during the 1980's if the Sandinists, as they expect, return to power in 1996.

These scenarios clash violently with President Violeta Chamorro's best intentions. She has outlined Nicaragua's military future as a 3,000-man army devoted to civic duties. Nicaragua has no natural enemies, and the Chamorro administration's principal mission is to bring peace to Nicaragua and banish the militarism that has always obstructed real democracy in our country.

Ortega's words could also be interpreted as a confirmation of the so-called "De Moss Report" related to the existence of a secret plan projected for 1997 whereby the Nicaraguan Armed Forces will not be cut, but in fact will be increased surreptitiously. This plan is to be implemented primarily by using the "reserve" units that currently pretend to be civilians but are in fact an integral part, in name as well as conduct, of the Sandinist military apparatus.

It is important to emphasize that the Nicaraguan military budget, $78 million during the current year, has increased by several unspecified millions of dollars this year with the sale of military equipment to Peru. The "De Moss Report" holds that other military equipment sales to Peru had been made previously by the Armed Forces and nothing had been published on the issue. The Nicaraguan people are now aware of how taxpayers' funds will be used to maintain the Sandinist military apparatus.

Gen. Ortega's statements leave no room for any hope that the military budget will be less than in 1992.

President Chamorro had promised that by the end of the second year of her presidential term—that is, by 1993—the Armed Forces would be a 3,000-man civic force, which is considered a reasonable figure adjusted to economic capabilities. Gen. Ortega's statements clearly contradict that objective and have taken away the initiative of a presidential pronouncement that is the only source authorized to express a final decision on this issue.

Despite numerous promises, many plans, and so many declarations, it has become very clear that the dismantling of the massive Sandinist military apparatus, which had buried the expectation of any democracy in Nicaragua, continues to be an uphill struggle beleaguered with difficulties, contradictions, and conflicting interests.

We believe that President Chamorro has done an excellent job amid an extremely difficult and complicated situation against the dictatorial Sandinist military society she inherited when taking over the presidency presented by the people in 1990.

We also believe that the people fully support her in her original quest to create a national army of only several thousand men to be used in peacekeeping duties, which is what we can really afford. Any other plan, including the one mentioned on 2 September by Gen. Ortega, implies that there is a plan to continue imposing an array of military expenditures on the Nicaraguan people who, amid their tribulations, simply cannot afford them.

News Conference on Land Decrees Reviewed

PA1009155292 Managua Radio Nicaragua Network in Spanish 2254 GMT 9 Sep 92

[News conference by Finance Minister Emilio Pereira; Attorney General Guillermo Vargas; Presidential Legal Adviser Thomas Delaney; and Hector Saldana, director of the Office of Territorial Organization, with foreign and domestic reporters at the Presidency in Managua—live]

[Excerpts] [Moderator] We will now start the questions. Maria Elvira Salazar [of Telemundo, CNN].

[Salazar] Who will be property ombudsman and who will form the commission that will review these cases? What are their names?

[Vargas] I will answer you. In keeping with a decree signed by Mrs. Chamorro, I will, in my capacity as attorney general, appoint the property ombudsman. His office will be a branch of the Attorney General's Office. The names of that person and the other two commission members will be announced early next week after the 14 and 15 September independence day holidays. We will immediately call a news conference to announce the installation of that commission and the names of the property ombudsman and the other two commission members, in other words, the names of all three of them.

[Salazar] Could you advance the criteria those people will use to determine whether a property will be returned or if there will be compensation?

[Vargas] I could give you some examples because they involve cases that can be explained easily and that have been previously explained as part of the government program. It will be impossible to return a property that was confiscated and distributed among peasants, all of whom hold agrarian title deeds, in which a number of people have settled and are working in cooperatives. We will maintain the criteria of confiscation for agrarian reform purposes that is specified in the government program. This is among the program's well-defined criteria.

Another criteria—and this is only an example and should not be construed as a general rule—involves properties confiscated for important public interest purposes in which the state has invested heavily. For example, the case of a confiscated plot on which an institute was built through a foreign loan or the government's own funds. There is no possibility that we will return this plot where an institute, which is fulfilling a very special function, was built. In other words, criteria may vary greatly, but these are definitely two cases that are well known to all. The commission will analyze carefully each case. [passage omitted]

[Moderator] Osvaldo Bonilla of UPI.

[Bonilla] From what Dr. Emilio Pereira just said, I infer, first, that the properties that have been returned already will be reviewed. Second, I understand Decrees 3 and 38, the ones referring to the Somozas, Somozists, and national guard members. It was said these properties would not be returned, that their status would remain the same. As for Decrees 85 and 86, I believe they refer to the pinata; Decree 85 refers to the land, and—if I am not wrong—Decree 86 refers to the houses... [unidentified speaker says: The other way around] or the other way around as Lila is telling me. Decree 86 refers to the land and Decree 85 to the houses. Decree 88 also refers to the land, I am told, thank you. What criteria will prevail?

Also, as for the property of U.S. citizens, could you explain its status and the status of those who became nationals of other countries after their property was confiscated? That is, Nicaraguans who became U.S. citizens after their properties had been confiscated.

[Vargas] I do not think Mr. Emilio Pereira said returned properties will be reviewed. To the government, returned properties are completely settled matters. They are totally settled. If a property was returned it means that a review was already made or no review was required, and that property was returned in keeping with Decree 23-91. This decree will continue to be fully honored.

Perhaps he was referring to certain agreements or resolutions by the previous review commission; resolutions that have not been complied with, that is, properties that have not been returned. These cases will definitely be reviewed because there are some special cases [pauses] ...that is, they will be reviewed specifically because it is not known if they will be returned or compensation will be granted. The commission will analyze these cases; this will definitely be among its duties.

As for Decrees 3 and 38, which stated that those properties would not be returned, because they involve fully confiscated properties, the decrees signed by Mrs. Chamorro state the application of such decrees will be reviewed because in many cases they were also unjustly applied. This is what the commission will review.

On more than one occasion I have mentioned the example of a peasant from Jalapa who was affected by Decree 3, as if he had been a member of the National Guard. But he never was; he was never evicted from this property. He is still growing crops on it; he has always grown them with his own resources. It happens that recently he needed a document and went to the bank to obtain an ownership confirmation only to find out that his property was confiscated. Decree 3 was applied but

he never knew about it; he had never been notified or warned. There are many similar cases and the review commission will deal with them; it will only deal with those who took advantage of Decree 11-90, those who requested a review.

As for Law 85, the review the Office for Territorial Organization [OOT] just completed, that will be among the property ombudsman's duties. The Attorney General's Office will proceed judicially in all cases where the OOT denies responsibility [denegado solvencia] because of irregularities in the application of this law. The corresponding suits will be filed, through the property ombudsman, before justice tribunals.

As for the other laws, among the decrees that Mrs. Chamorro just signed is one that expands OOT duties to deal with the allotment of rural properties. As for the U.S. citizens, foreigners and nationals were affected equally. There are as many foreigners who were unjustly affected as there are Nicaraguans. We are reviewing such cases. There are definitely also individuals now assuming other foreign nationalities who used to be Nicaraguan citizens, who were never the victims of confiscation, or who were not affected for being U.S. citizens because they were not U.S. citizens at the time of the confiscations. All their cases will be reviewed by the commission, based on claims filed before the commission, and in the order the commission chooses. [passage omitted]

[Moderator] Mrs. Sonia Gonzalez of NOTIMEX.

[Gonzalez] I would like to know the scope of Decrees 3 and 38, to know what they will cover, because months ago the Somoza family made claims. I would like to know how far the revision will go, and I would like to know how many properties, homes, and manzanas of land are being claimed.

[Pereira] That is part of the National Revision Commission's job. The government has pledged that all individuals who requested the revision of confiscated lands will receive a response. President Chamorro has issued recommendations and special instructions to the National Revision Commission to the effect that all of the decrees except Decrees 3 and 38 are to be resolved favorably. We have resolved an enormous number of the cases presented for revision.

Decrees 3 and 38 will also be reviewed, which means that certain cases will be rejected by the revision commission. When we say a house will be reviewed it means that the commission will examine the case. (?Certain cases will not be entitled to revisions) through the administrative process. This does not mean they will be denied a legal procedure, because anyone can request a revision. From the administrative standpoint we cannot close the door on anyone's claims at any time. The revision commission can, however, reject certain cases, and for us those cases will be closed from the administrative standpoint. Regarding the number of claims, there are approximately 4,600, involving a total of approximately 16,000 properties. I am quoting rounded figures because at present I do not have all of the statistics with me. There are approximately 4,600 claims against 16,000 properties. Included in these 16,000 properties are urban and rural properties, personal property such as cattle, vehicles, stock shares, and so forth. In other words, there are a total of 16,000 properties including urban, semiurban, and rural properties, shares, furniture, and so forth. The previous revision commission had already resolved approximately 1,000 revision requests. A few cases, or rather a number of them, have been reviewed and others are still pending revision, as I said earlier. [passage omitted]

[Moderator] Jorge (?Cartin) of Inravision.

[(?Cartin)] I wanted to ask to what extent the spirit of Decrees 3 and 38 will be respected with regard to the revisions the commission will undertake, and if Agreement 148 authorizes the National Revision Commission to return any properties to the individuals affected by Decrees 3 and 38, except the man in Jalapa or, to be more specific, if they will return properties to the Somoza family and their close relatives.

[Pereira] The spirit of Decree 3 is against returning anything to the Somoza family. The Commission has been authorized to review those cases where the decrees were improperly applied and those properties will be returned. The case of the gentleman from Jalapa [words indistinct] is not the only case.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct]

[Pereira] With the same spirit and letter as Decree 3, which expressly indicates who the decree will apply to. There are a number of people who were not in any way involved with the (?regime) but they were affected by the decrees. This is an issue that must be reviewed case by case by the revision commission. This is exactly why the commission will devote itself entirely to this issue and study these cases carefully, basing its decisions on the very spirit and letter of Decrees 3 and 38. [passage omitted]

[Moderator] Mrs. Elsa Gomez.

[Gomez] Thank you. Elsa Gomez of "Today in the News," Radio El Pensamiento.

[Moderator] [Words indistinct] will be next. Go ahead, Elsita.

[Gomez] Thank you. To talk about property is to talk about the country's economic development and the efforts to overcome our current crisis. Dr. Vargas, I would like to know if you have more or less calculated the time needed by the commission or office that will be installed by the Attorney General's Office to yield the first results? Also, what are its goals? For example, how many of the 16,000 properties included in 4,600 claims will be settled and how soon? Do not forget the year will

end in three months. Since the property issue is so critical, even for the delivery of more than $100 million in U.S. aid, how long do you believe it will take to achieve the first results? We will also turn over the microphone to AP.

[Reporter] I would like to emphasize what President Violeta Barrios de Chamorro said on 9 September at the businessmen's meeting. She said those affected by the.... [pauses] She had decided beforehand that all the claims presented to the Attorney General's Office should be favorably settled. When she says beforehand it means before any study. We know several of the properties being claimed had one, two, even three mortgages, and the housing directorate had sold them to various individuals. How can a favorable resolution of these property issues be decided in advance? The properties include the one formerly owned by Alexis Arguello. It had three mortgages and it was sold to Mrs. Esperanza... [pauses] Mrs. Chacon, Jaime Wheelock's mother.

How should we interpret the fact that the president ordered an inventory of assets and appropriated land distributed during the transition period, according to Laws 85 and 86, to restore illegally acquired assets? Laws 85 and 86 have their own expiration date and no law is applicable on a retroactive basis. No one can use a law to take away assets you received according to another law. How can we interpret this if no law is applicable on a retroactive basis? How can we interpret what the president said, meaning illegally acquired assets will be restored to their owners?

[Vargas] The two questions are interesting and I will answer them. These questions are particularly special and I am glad you asked them. First, the commission. I cannot tell you the commission will be installed tomorrow or the next day, but I can assure you that, according to the president's instructions, all the claims submitted according to Law 11-90 will be settled before the year's end. This is an ambitious goal but the work carried out throughout this year at the Presidency allows us to do that. If we had continued to work like the previous commission, we would have spent five years solving each case. All the information has been registered by computer and the commission will quickly resolve these cases. I am only talking about resolutions reached by the commission, not the overall solution of the problem. This will happen later, once the assessment phase is over, because that takes longer.

Referring to the other journalist's question, Mrs. Chamorro said all the requests to review cases not dealing with Decrees 3 and 38 were already considered favorably settled. This is the decision concerning all the legal cases for which a claim has been submitted, because we will never return a property if it has been sold, donated to the state, or used to settle a previous debt—even if a request is submitted to review its confiscation—because confiscation is not involved in those cases. The only thing the commission will say is: Sir, you are illegally claiming a property that does not belong to you because it was sold to the state, and the state paid for it.

In fact, some resolutions have already been issued and the office, the Attorney General's Office, has already been solving some of the cases, without waiting for the commission. It is stating: Sir, you have no right to the property. You sold it. You used it to pay a debt. Or, you have an enormous mortgage and cannot pay it. But if you can pay the mortgage we will return the property and there is no problem.

Some mortgages are larger than the property's value, yet it is being claimed illegally. This is not the goal or intention. This is not what Mrs. Chamorro meant when she addressed the Higher Council of Private Enterprise on 9 September. There are many cases—you know about them and we know about them—in which properties are being claimed that had been sold in due time or that were donated to the state. These will not be resolved favorably and the government will not return them because they were not confiscated. The commission will review cases of unfair property confiscation.

The last part of the question concerns the law and the fact it is not retroactive. She wants to know how a person's property can be confiscated when it was legally acquired. We are not talking about that. We are talking about those who violated the law, meaning those who did not legally acquire their properties. The cases have been uncovered. These people failed to abide by the law. The law will be enforced in those cases. The land will either be returned to the state or restored to its legal owners. [passage omitted]

Panama

Assembly President Zarak on New Commissions

PA0809153092 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Text] The Christian Democratic Party [PDC] has been hampering the formation of the various commissions in the Legislative Assembly, according to Assembly President Lucas Zarak.

The talks between the various Assembly factions, with the exception of the PDC, have continued in an effort to reach a consensus to create the 20 working commissions.

[Begin recording] [Zarak] It is complex work, but we hope to have formed the 20 commissions soon so the Assembly can start its regular work.

[Unidentified reporter] Apparently, however, the PDC has not yet presented its candidates.

[Zarak] True. This is the problem we are experiencing. We have talked with the PDC representatives and asked them to designate their commission members and let us know what the PDC expects from the commissions. We

have not succeeded in getting them to present their candidates or their aspirations.

[Milton Henriquez] It is not true we are hampering the Assembly. We cannot hamper anything in the Assembly because the PRD-Endara alliance received more than 37 votes, with which they can impose as many commission heads as they want. Probably, many of the alliance members have refused to act as commission heads because this means they would have to work. [end recording]

PRD will head the agriculture commission, however.

[Begin Elias Castillo rcording] This is an essential commission, of great interest for us. We have also been members of other working commissions. [end recording]

Molirena [Nationalist Liberal Republican Movement] aspires to head 10 of the commissions.

[Begin Leo Gonzalez recording] Because the election for assembly president was won by the progovernment faction, it is only fair for us to head these commissions, particularly those dealing with the economy. This will enable us to implement the Ford Plan as soon as possible. A tremendous delay occurred when the PDC headed these commissions in the past. [end recording]

An unofficial report says that 18 of the 20 commissions have already been formed. These are the names of the commissions and their reported heads. Molirena: Budget, Librado Montenegro; Finance, Miguel Cardenas; Commerce, Mario Boyd Galindo; Foreign Relations, Olimpo Saez; Public Works, Mario Forero; Labor, Luis Benjamin Rosas; Education, Olmenares Quijano; Transport and Communications, Eliseo Alvarez; Housing, Alonso Fernandez; Drugs, Leo Gonzalez.

Liberal Party: Credentials, Arnulfo Escalona; Environment, Herman Negy.

PRD: Agriculture and Livestock, Gerardo Gonzalez; Health, Gloria Moreno de Lopez; Government and Justice, Jose Antonio Sossa; Correction and Style, Ada Luz Lopez de Gordon; Children and Family, Gisela Chung; Human Rights, Aurelio Alba; Canal, Marco Ameglio, Carlos Arellano Lennox, or Alonso Fernandez, among others.

Endara on Possibility of Amnesty in Certain Cases

PA0909185192 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 9 Sep 92 p 1

[Report by James Aparicio]

[Text] President Guillermo Endara on 8 September ruled out that the Legislative Assembly will issue an amnesty for military men and politicians involved in murders or human rights violations but he did not dismiss the possibility of "thinking about other cases."

"I do not think there can be amnesty for people accused of murder, torture, and human rights violations, for those who closed newspapers or radio stations, and for those who participated in the treacherous 4 and 5 December coup attempt," Endara told foreign journalists.

Endara downplayed the importance of a draft amnesty law submitted to the Legislative Assembly by the opposition Democratic Revolutionary Party (PRD) because, he said, "they present it every year."

"We would have to think about the other cases," Endara said without going into detail.

Approximately 54 civilians and military men, including members of General Manuel Antonio Noriega's general staff, have been imprisoned since the 20 December 1989 U.S. military intervention.

Colonel Eduardo Herrera, leader of the 4 and 5 December 1990 coup movement, and other officers are also imprisoned while awaiting trial.

The opposition Christian Democratic Party and various government spokesmen have rejected the amnesty proposal because they consider those imprisoned to be "common criminals."

The Attorney General's office has reported that Benjamin Colamarco, Enrique Thompson, and Arturo Marquinez, three PRD members and leaders of the Dignity Battalions, are being prosecuted for attacking the security of the state.

Last week, the PRD sent a letter to John Paul II asking for his mediation to obtain the release of the prisoners, "the end of the political persecution, and the return of the exiles."

The former ruling party believes that the 54 being held are prisoners of war and are being persecuted politically after having being captured by the U.S. troops that overthrew Gen. Manuel Antonio Noriega.

Endara also disclosed that his government is evaluating the situation of the coffee growers to find solutions for this sector. The coffee growers will be demonstrating at the Legislative Assembly on 9 September.

Endara said he has asked the National Bank and the Agricultural Development Bank "for a flexible policy when collecting the coffee growers' debts so as to prevent irreparable damage to that sector."

Brazil

Supreme Court Extends Term for Collor Defense

PY1109000892 Brasilia Voz do Brasil Network in Portuguese 2200 GMT 10 Sep 92

[Text] The Federal Supreme Court decided today by seven votes to one that President Fernando Collor will have 10 congressional sessions to defend himself in the Chamber of Deputies in the impeachment process going on there.

About 200 people, including prosecutors, lawyers, congressmen, and reporters, attended the open session, which started just before 1400 today. After the report was read by Justice Octavio Galotti, who was designated to study the appeal, the justices began a technical discussion over the court's jurisdiction in studying the appeal, and if the appeal was appropriate or not. By a majority of seven votes to the one of Justice Paulo Brossard, the court members decided that the government appeal was admissible, and that the Federal Supreme Court has the jurisdiction to make a decision.

After a 30-minute interval, the ministers began to study the injunction request. The session ended just after 1700. In response to the government appeal, and again by a majority of seven votes to one, the court members granted a preliminary injunction. In granting the preliminary injunction the court members believed that the president of the Republic has the right to 10 congressional sessions to defend himself, as opposed to the five congressional sessions granted by Deputy Ibsen Pinheiro. This is what Federal Supreme Court President Sydney Sanchez said:

[Begin recording, in progress] ...that the president of the Republic must have 10 congressional sessions to defend himself before the Chamber of Deputies, because this is also the term granted by the Federal Supreme Court in cases of common crimes. The Court applied the principle of analogy by giving the same term to the president. Regarding the other issues, for example on secret voting or not, they were not dicussed, because the court believes that it is possible that the month-long process will be considerably shortened. [end recording]

Sydney Sanchez also explained that he will ask Deputy Ibsen Pinheiro to present within 24 hours a report on the legal basis adopted by him on the procedures for the impeachment petition made by the ABI [Brazilian Press Association] and the OAB [Brazilian Attorneys Association]. He will also ask Attorney General Aristides Junqueria to submit within 24 hours his position on this case. President Fernando Collor's private attorney Jose Guilherme Villela said that the president of the Republic will fully demand his right for defense which is guaranteed by the Constitution.

[Begin Villela recording] The Federal Supreme Court not only recognized the need to extend the term, but also to ensure in accordance with regulation 217/1 of the Chamber of Deputies' internal regulations the extension of the president's defense. Therefore, the president of the Republic will be able to request evidence, produce evidence, and request the presence of experts, and therefore the 10 congressional sessions may not be enough. [end recording]

Justices Marco Aurelio de Mello, President Collor's cousin, and Francisco Resek, former foreign minister, did not participate in the voting. Marco de Mello had to travel to Sao Paulo. The evaluation of the government appeal will be made within the shortest possible time, as soon as the Supreme Court president receives the position of the attorney general and the information requested from the president of the Chamber of Deputies.

Collor Pleased With Decision

PY1109001892 Brasilia Voz do Brasil Network in Portuguese 2200 GMT 10 Sep 92

[Text] President Fernando Collor's private lawyer, Jose Guilherme Villela, said that the president has received the Federal Supreme Court's [STF] decision with satisfaction and calm. According to Villela, the STF has ensured through a preliminary injunction the right to defense of the president of the Republic.

Lawyer Jose Guilherme Villela said that the fact that the STF has not suspended the procedural norms of the impeachment request does not modify the government plans.

[Begin Villela recording] It does not modify the government's plans because the STF has established clearly that it will make its best effort, just as I predicted, to shorten the process as much as possible. This is a legal process of great national interest—perhaps the case that most interests the country currently—and therefore it will have an absolute priority treatment.

Chamber of Deputies President Ibsen Pinheiro now has 10 days to explain the bases for his decision. He is also interested in a rapid process, and therefore naturally he will not take long. The case then will be taken immediately to the Attorney General's Office. Nearly all the justices, and especially the STF president, have requested that Attorney General Aristides Junqueira issue a decision as quickly as possible.

Therefore I believe that the decision on the injunction will be made in September, that is, we will know whether the impeachment procedural norms and the voting system are correct. [end recording]

Lawyer Jose Guilherme Villela added that any decision by the Chamber of Deputies that may harm the defense of the president of the Republic will be answered immediately with a new appeal before the STF.

Deputies React to Extension

PY1109023292 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 2300 GMT 10 Sep 92

[Report by correspondent Delis Ortiz]

[Excerpts] When the Federal Supreme Court [STF] justices struck the gavel, guaranteeing an additional five sessions for President Collor's defense, the progovernment deputies celebrated. Now, more than ever, they bet that the Chamber of Deputies' final decision will be made after the municipal elections. Nevertheless, the progovernment deputies insist that the battle is simply to guarantee enforcement of the law.

[Begin recording, in progress] [Deputy Jose Lourenco] ...concurred now with the STF ruling, and that the Chamber of Deputies is again abiding by the law.

[Unidentified correspondent] This could guarantee that the Chamber of Deputies will vote after the elections.

[Lourenco] I don't know if it will be before or after. I am prepared to vote before or after the elections. I just know that it will be abiding by the law.

[Deputy Jose Genoino] If it was a struggle millimeter by millimeter, it is now a yet finer and more concrete one. We are in a position to expedite the process through the committee's spokesman and at the plenary. I hope the deputies will vote on the 30th. This is our effort: to mobilize the deputies, to bring everyone here, and guarantee the sessions, including tomorrow and on 14 September.

[Deputy Roberto Jefferson] It was a decision abiding by the law, and there are neither victors nor losers. Brazil won, democracy won. [passage omitted] [end recording] [passage omitted]

[Begin Chamber of Deputies President Ibsen Pinheiro recording] The five- or 10-session deadline does not alter the Chamber of Deputies timetable as to the basic feature—which is that the vote will take place in September. I am also adding—and I will also report this to the STF because it will certainly request information—that I will give his excellency the president of the Republic an opportunity to also defend himself during the plenary. [end recording]

Collor 'Considered' Possibility of TV Address

PY1009230492 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 10 Sep 92 p 5

[Excerpt] Brasilia—President Fernando Collor yesterday even considered the possibility of requesting a national radio and television hookup in order to make a declaration stating that his right to defense had been curtailed by Chamber of Deputies President Ibsen Pinheiro, who established a period of five sessions for Collor to express himself during the impeachment process.

The government gave up the struggle for a secret vote on impeachment, and decided to concentrate their strategy on the inadequacy of the deadline for defense. Until last night, however, the president was still not convinced that it was an opportune time to make a new declaration.

In addition to the appeal filed with the STF [Federal Supreme Court], Collor's "shock troops" suggested that he take the position of being a victim of casuistic arguments. [passage omitted]

Bornhausen Tenders Resignation; Collor Accepts

PY1009173992 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 1600 GMT 10 Sep 92

[Text] President Fernando Collor has accepted the resignation of Jorge Bornhausen, minister secretary general of government, who for five months was the government's political coordinator. The resignation was submitted to the president at Planalto Palace early this morning.

Bornhausen left his house shortly before 0800. He calmly awaited his driver for almost 10 minutes. He declined to make any comment.

He met with President Collor at 0900. The meeting lasted 30 minutes. Bornhausen handed the president a nine-page resignation letter in which he highlights the Congressional Investigating Committee members' efforts to look into serious facts that must be fully clarified. The minister also stated that the committee was under strong political and electoral pressure. Bornhausen added that Chamber of Deputies President Ibsen Pinheiro adopted a hybrid method for voting on the impeachment process, curtailing the president's right to defense.

Bornhausen will fly to Sao Paulo this afternoon, and then abroad.

Information released at Planalto Palace suggests Bornhausen's post is unlikely to be filled because President Collor is carrying out the government's political coordination work with the help of Ministers Ricardo Fiuza, Angelo Calmon de Sa, Eraldo Tinoco, and Afonso Camargo.

Defense Chances in Congress, Timetable Viewed

PY1009143192 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 9 Sep 92 p 3

[Text] Brasilia—President Fernando Collor has two chances to defend himself before the Chamber of Deputies. He is charged with complicity with the crimes perpetrated by PC [Paulo Cesar] Farias and of having received undue financial gains, according to the CPI [Congressional Investigating Committee] that investigated the PC Farias case. Collor will submit his first plea in writing within a period corresponding to five congressional sessions. Even if sessions are not held in the Chamber, this period still runs—only interrupted by weekends.

The second plea will be submitted 20 minutes before the Chamber of Deputies votes on the CPI report. This will be the last action before the report is voted. Collor need not go to the session, he may be represented by his attorney or a government leader who must bear a letter of attorney signed by the president. The following is the special committee's timetable:

15 September—The period corresponding to five congressional sessions for the president of the Republic to submit his plea expires on this day. The deadline for the special committee to receive the president's plea in writing expires at 1900 on 15 September. The opposition estimates that the government will submit the president's plea on 15 September, the final day. The committee's work will only actually start on this day. The night of 15 September the committee will meet to make its decision. Once the government has the committee's decision it may ask to examine it. The committee will then give the government 24 hours to examine the document. After that, probably on Friday, 17, [as published] the committee will vote.

17 September—The period of seven congressional sessions for the committee to make its decision expires this day. If necessary, and depending on maneuvers and efforts by government allies to hinder voting of the committee's decision, it may be postponed until 19 or 20 September.

21 September (or 22 September, at the latest)—The committee will inform Ibsen Pinheiro of the results of the vote. Pinheiro, in turn, will issue a note to inform all the deputies about the result of the vote.

22 or 23 September—The first round of debates begin in the Chamber of Deputies plenary hall. The deputies will defend their points of view for one hour. Parties with larger representation will have more time to speak. The Chamber of Deputies will establish a two-hour recess to begin a second round of debates, which will probably be scheduled for 26 or 27 September as result of the hindering maneuvers and attempts by the pro-government congressmen.

28 or 29 September—The voting of the Chamber of Deputies plenary will authorize the Senate to process and judge the president of the Republic.

Observation—Although the government has instruments with which to hinder the process, they are limited by the strict timetable that has been established. For example, the government may attempt to prevent a quorum in the sessions of the special committee that was established yesterday, but this will be very difficult given the supremacy of the opposition forces. This maneuver may also be attempted during the plenary meeting. In this case, the opposition must permanently guarantee the presence of at least one-third of the deputies in the plenary hall.

Courts Confirm Evidence of Collor Offenses

PY1109023892 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 2300 GMT 10 Sep 92

[Excerpt] The federal courts have confirmed the existence of circumstantial evidence of offenses involving President Fernando Collor. This decision was made by Judge Mario Cesar Ribeiro, who already has sent the portion of the inquest involving the president of the Republic to the Federal Supreme Court.

Prosecutors (Odin Ferreira) and (Italo Fioravante), who have been working on this case from the very outset, had already convinced themselves of the president of the Republic's involvement with Paulo Cesar Farias during the CPI [Congressional Investigating Committee] investigations, after driver Francisco Eriberto Franca's testimony.

In addition to mentioning President Collor many times, the report of the government Attorney General's Office asks to conduct further investigations into the bank accounts of President Collor's secretary, the payments for construction at Casa da Dinda [Collor's private residence] that were carried out by a company owned by Paulo Cesar [PC] Farias, and the ghost deposits that were made to the accounts of the first lady, the butler, and President Collor's secretaries, mother, and former wife.

The prosecutors even claim there was a gang headed by PC Farias.

The arguments of the government attorney general's office even point at the existence of circumstantial evidence of unlawful actions committed by the president as a result of the actions of former secretary Claudio Vieira. This convinced Ninth Federal Court Judge Mario Cesar Ribeiro. [passage omitted]

Electoral Court Orders Removal of Pro-Collor Ad

PY1109025092 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 2300 GMT 10 Sep 92

[Text] The Sao Paulo Regional Electoral Court today ordered all Sao Paulo State television stations to immediately suspend PRN [National Reconstruction Party] propaganda supporting President Collor.

Court of Appeals Judge Carlos Alberto Ortiz classified the advertisements as banned electoral propaganda, and as such they could only be broadcast during the free time allotted for political parties.

In a communique the Esso Company reported that it had not authorized the use of film of an old newscast sponsored by the company. The Esso Company intends to take all the legal steps it deems necessary.

Government Cancels All U.S. Wheat Imports

PY1009124092 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 10 Sep 92

[Text] The Brazilian Government has canceled all imports of wheat from the United States in protest over the U.S. Government decision to subsidize exports of 30 million tons of wheat to dozens of countries.

Agriculture Minister Antonio Cabrera said that this subsidy represents a new blow to the world principle on free trade. He added that subsidized imported goods are cheaper in Brazil, which represents unfair competition to national products.

Army Minister Cancels Trip to Mexico

PY1009174292 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1555 GMT 10 Sep 92

[Excerpt] Brasilia, 10 Sep (EFE)—Official sources have reported that Brazilian Army Minister Carlos Tinoco has canceled an eight-day official visit to Mexico, during which he was to have attended the Mexican independence celebrations. Tinoco was scheduled to start his visit today.

A military spokesman told EFE that Tinoco preferred not to leave Brazil at this time in light of the serious political crisis that could ultimately provoke President Fernando Collor's impeachment.

"It was not advisable for him to travel at this time," the spokesman said. [passage omitted]

Chile

Survey Shows Aylwin's Popularity Declining

PY1109005092 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 10 Sep 92

[Summary] The Adimark Public Studies Center has released the results of its latest survey. The survey, conducted during August, shows that only 48.7 percent of the population approves of Patricio Aylwin's leadership, the lowest approval rate in his three years of government. The survey also shows that if a presidential election were to be held today, most people would vote for Eduardo Frei Ruiz-Tagle. The coalition's most important leaders are Patricio Aylwin and then Ricardo Lagos, while the most important opposition leader is Evelyn Matthei. The survey also shows that people's highest concern is law and order, after which comes health.

Suspected Lautaro Terrorists Kill 3 Policemen

PY1109030292 Santiago Radio Cooperativa Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 10 Sep 92

[Excerpts] So far four persons have died as a result of a terrorist attack perpetrated against members of the investigative police in eastern Santiago. The police agents were inside a vehicle guarding the house of Metropolitan Regional Mayor Luis Pareto, at the corner of Montevedra and Los Pozos Streets in the Las Condes neighborhood.

According to preliminary reports a woman who was pretending to be carrying a baby got out a of a taxi and suddenly opened fire at the agents. Two of them died inside the vehicle, while a third managed to get out and return fire, but was also shot dead by the individuals accompanying the woman.

Carabineros Colonel Patricio Moreno, head of the Eastern Carabineros Zone, gave an account of the incident:

[Begin Moreno recording] They were attacked suddenly by four individuals armed with automatic rifles who, without any warning, practically riddled the three policemen with bullets. Immediately after that they fled in a taxi, which they abandoned in Maria Teresa Street. [end recording]

Moreno added that one of the extremists, who was wearing a helmet and pretending to be a bricklayer, was found near the taxi. [passage omitted]

An exhaustive search for those responsible for the attack was launched immediately after the incident. [passage omitted]

According to preliminary reports, the authors may belong to the Lautaro Movement.

Colombia

Antioquia FARC Fronts Propose Peace Dialogue

PA1009200592 Santa Fe de Bogota Emisoras Caracol Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 10 Sep 92

[Text] Medellin—Five FARC [Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia] fronts operating in Antioquia have asked Antioquia Governor Juan Gomez Martinez and Medellin Mayor Luis Alfredo Ramos to establish a regional peace dialogue as an adequate means of achieving peace in the areas affected by guerrilla violence.

British Home Secretary Tours Drug Regions

PA1009140792 Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 2300 GMT 9 Sep 92

[Text] As part of his visit to Colombia, British Home Office Secretary Kenneth Clarke toured two regions of the country where drug trafficking is being fought. He visited San Jose del Guaviare and Huila. Mauricio Manjares filed this report:

[Begin recording] [Manjares] [passage indistinct]

[Police Director General Miguel Gomez] [Words indistinct] poppy and the results through spraying or manual eradication by the national police.

[Manjares] There was another aspect to the tour: To interest the British Government in the international countermarcotics program. The British secretary participated in the tour as a special guest. Mr. Secretary, how will your government participate in the eradication of these plantations in our country?

[Clarke's translator] First we are making efforts [words indistinct] we are taking very strong measures against [words indistinct] drug traffickers.

[Manjares] For the time being, the narcotics police continue the struggle to eradicate another 1,000 hectares of poppy in the Tolima area [words indistinct]. [end recording]

Maximum Security Prison Strengthened

PA1009130092 Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 2300 GMT 9 Sep 92

[Text] The strength of security at maximum security prisons was questioned today. According to reports presented in congress and information provided by security experts, it is possible to work both ways in this matter of security and, in technical matters, the human factor is the most important. [sentence as heard] This situation led the government to order changes in the recently constructed Itagui prison.

The Itagui maximum security prison is regarded as Latin America's safest. This is where the brothers Ochoa will be taken and where Pablo Escobar would probably be held if he surrenders again. The prison was built by Italcore. The prison was fitted with sophisticated electronic equipment, but it is not invulnerable. This technological marvel can be defeated.

[Begin recording] [Security adviser Luis Marino] The prison, as everything else, must have a risk factor, which should be minimum if the prison is to be very safe. You can never speak of 100 percent security because, in addition to the equipment, for instance, there is always the human factor to consider. [end recording]

This situation alerted the government, particularly after listening to an accusation by Rodriguez to the Senate commission investigating Escobar's escape.

[Begin Col. Homero Rodriguez, former director of La Catedral Prison] At a meeting in the Itagui mayor's office on 12 March, and in the presence of two advisers, Caceres and Mayor Canal, the mayor reported to us on the visit by an Israeli citizen, who said that in the new prison there would be hidden microphones, a number of television sets, and other sophisticated equipment. The Israeli man said they would sell the electronic gear to counter the equipment that the government would install. [end recording]

The government, however, has already taken measures to prevent this situation from happening at the Itagui prison. Today, Justice Minister Andres Gonzalez said he has ordered changes in the security measures at the prison.

[Begin Gonzalez recording] The Ministry of Justice has made a thorough assessment of the situation and ordered a number of changes that will be made in a few days. [end recording]

In addition, the minister ordered a criminal investigation of the accusations made by Col. Rodriguez.

* Military Intelligence Staff To Increase

92SM0575A Santa Fe de Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 10 Aug 92 p 14A

[Text] The Ministry of Defense anticipates that in the near future the Army will have 2,479 intelligence experts. The program seeks greater effectiveness in the fight against illegal organizations operating in Colombia.

Between now and 1995, the number of persons connected with military intelligence departments will increase more than eight times.

This enormous increase goes hand in hand with investments. During the same period of time, budget allocations to this military department will exceed 10 billion pesos.

An outline of the government's plans for expanding its intelligence agencies is contained in the "Memorandum to the National Congress," the Defense Ministry's annual report to the legislature.

In the document, Minister of Defense Rafael Pardo Rueda reveals that in 1992, due to budget constraints, the military kept inductions into its ranks to a minimum.

Pardo reports that the only adjustments sought were for the purpose of partially covering the highway energy safety plan and regular law enforcement needs.

To check the escalation of guerrilla terrorism and drug trafficking, the Army recruited 1,600 new professional soldiers, some of whom were assigned to 10 newly activated companies specializing in controlling subversion. The rest were sent to the two mobile brigades operating in Meta and Santander.

The Navy took in 343 enlisted men who joined five basic river combat units and six intelligence and reconnaissance squads.

This year, the Colombian Air Force (FAC) recruited no new personnel.

According to Pardo, guerrilla action, terrorism, drug trafficking, and organized crime forced a reorganization of intelligence services and an increase in personnel in order to achieve more effective coverage of areas where such outlaw bands operate.

Based on that strategy, the Army recruited 325 persons for its new intelligence service this year. Of that figure, 63 are officers; 207 are noncommissioned officers, and 55 are civilians.

Plans presented by the minister of defense to Congress indicate that 522 persons will be recruited in 1993, 709 in 1994, and 923 in 1995. The Army will thus have 2,479 intelligence experts.

The Navy will recruit 69 persons this year into its intelligence networks. That figure will rise to 223 in 1995, according to plans.

In 1992, the FAC recruited 203 persons. Over the next three years, intelligence experts in that institution will number 815.

Pardo's figures do not include changes to be made in the Judicial and Investigative Police Directorate (DIJIN) and sections of departmental commands throughout the country.

* Immigration Policy Would Attract Resources

92SM0578A Santa Fe de Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 6 Aug 92 p 7A

[Excerpt] Colombia will open its borders to promote a process of selective immigration in order to facilitate the entry of human resources and foreign capital, which are essential to national development, into the country.

Foreign Minister Nohemi Sanin said yesterday, 5 August, that the government has inaugurated, through its missions abroad, an attractive program of promotions and investment to create an immigration policy in keeping with the new model of economic free market competition.

As a practical tool, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has instituted a business visa, free of charge, for businessmen, merchants, industrialists, and executives that is valid for three years and renewable for periods of six months each time the holder reenters the country.

There are also other types of visas, among them those for residents, temporary residents, and visitors.

The Foreign Minister outlined the goals of this strategy at the first Seminar on Colombian International Migratory Policies.

The seminar, which was attended by experts from the Ministries of Economic Development and Labor, the Administrative Department of Security (DAS) and representatives of the diplomatic corps, took place in the auditorium of the Luis Angel Arango Library.

"Let us not ignore the possibility of attracting human resources from Eastern Europe," the minister said. "The economic situation that it is experiencing allows us to consider inviting professors, artists, industrialists, merchants, and technicians skilled in mining, energy, geology, textiles, plastics, fisheries, agriculture, and marine engineering, according to the needs in those fields established by competent authorities."

After presenting a historical description of world migration and of the difficult circumstances experienced by migrants, the minister declared that the time had come to design a policy that gradually attenuated these injustices and hardships.

"Without migrants eager to find gold and land for themselves and their families, California, Arizona, or Nevada would not exist today. Without the German migrants of the 1940's and the 1960's, the history of science in the United States would be very different," she said.

Colombia has refrained from opening its borders until now, she pointed out, and it must now take up three important matters: to select the human resources that are useful to it, to design an active policy based on pragmatism in order to have access to new developments in science and technology, and to import indispensable capital goods.

She said that Colombia has not had the ecumenical vision that has characterized other countries, such as Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Uruguay, and Venezuela, which opened their doors to intelligent and planned immigration, capable of transforming not only their economies, but also their way of life and their customs. [passage omitted]

Ecuador

* Minister of Government on Cabinet, Objectives

92SM0580A Guayaquil LA OTRA in Spanish 14 Aug 92 pp 18-22

[Interview with Minister of Government Roberto Dunn by Aminta Buenano Rugel; place and date not given—first two paragraphs are editorial introduction]

[Excerpts] He has the countenance of a good, well-brought-up child, and those who know him claim that he is foxy in business dealings: something like King Midas, for whom everything he touched turned to gold. In fact, Roberto Dunn is regarded as a successful entrepreneur, a man who, at age 50, has compiled in his life record two terms as minister of government, three national deputyships won with a large popular vote, and prosperous, extremely skillful management of several private business firms. [passage omitted]

At first glance, Dunn does not give the impression of being the typical successful entrepreneur, ready (adding machine in hand) to calculate his profits. Nor does he appear to be a politician, spoiled by the caprices afforded by power. Rather, he seems like a simple, very self-confident man, full of incorrigible good humor and with a smile on his face that is easily beamed on others: like the Saeta aircraft, which he owns. [passage omitted]

Dunn, the Politician

[Buenano] "Malicious tongues" claim that you are the "hard" man in the present government, appointing people to key positions. What truth is there in that?

[Dunn] You can observe me in this interview. Do you think that I could be a "hard man"? Do not pay any attention to it. "Those are rumors," as the immortal Lucho Gatica said.

[Buenano] But they claim that you are even harder than the president....

[Dunn] I am not at all like that. I am a "saintly person," as you see me (laughing). Those who claim that obviously do not know architect Sixto Duran-Ballen. I have not appointed anyone to key positions; I had a hard time being appointed myself.

[Buenano] Did you ever expect to be in the Ministry of Government for four years? Because when you were Roldos's minister of government, you were there briefly....

[Dunn] I worked with Jaime for a short time. I told him that I would remain with him for just a brief period. One cannot really predict how long he will remain in the government. I do not like to stay put for a long time. So much so that I chose to exchange a comfortable four-year assignment for the option of a ministry that may last peacefully for a month or a year. I prefer to run risks. [passage omitted]

[Buenano] How are the relations between the PUR [Republican Unity Party] and the Conservative Party?

[Dunn] Very good. With the end of the electoral process, during which there were duplicate candidates in many provinces, relations have remained normal because both parties represent the pooling of efforts to carry out a political plan with a president of the Republic.

[Buenano] Won't there be a power struggle?

[Dunn] We hope not, because that has proven harmful to Ecuador's development. I think that we have matured greatly, and the country voted against that precisely. I do not believe that the members of Congress want to repeat something that the entire people reject.

[Buenano] What are the plans to be executed most rapidly?

[Dunn] In the first place, we want to give all Ecuadorians total security. Day after day we observe the lack of security that exists, not only on the streets of Guayaquil and Quito, or in other provincial capitals, but also in the rural areas and on the highways. We are now studying a program of joint action with the defense minister, General Jose Gallardo, for the Armed Forces and National Police, together, to engage in a preventive effort and to provide the security that the Ecuadorian citizen deserves. Another fundamental problem that we want to solve, although we realize that it is difficult to achieve in four years, is that of transportation.

[Buenano] This is the prime problem confronting the present government. How do you all intend to solve it?

[Dunn] They handed it to us on a silver platter. We hope that the country will have sufficient civic maturity and realize that these situations cannot be solved overnight. We want to provide a total, overall solution for it, which we will announce it as soon as it has been confirmed.

[Buenano] But the people are desperate, and there have been times when, in their rage, they have even thrown rocks at vehicles. This is a problem that is going to grow worse, and you will have to solve it immediately. Will you retain the same theories as the previous government's, or will you include some changes?

[Dunn] But doesn't it seem ridiculous to you that a cigarette that goes up in smoke within a few minutes costs 100 sucres? Relatively speaking, doesn't it seem incredible to you that a soda costs 250 sucres, while the fare is so low? What we must seek is a balancing point. We must try to achieve very good service because everyone wants to be treated as a human being. But this will only be achieved if fair compensation is also sought: a balance on which the user and the carrier are in mutual agreement. The news media should cooperate in this.

The Entrepreneur

[Buenano] From comments, we hear that you are a kind of King Midas, a successful man who made his first million when he was only 17 years old. Is that true?

[Dunn] No, it is not true. What I actually did, at age 20, was to borrow a million sucres in order to start working. [passage omitted]

[Buenano] Weren't you ever afraid that you might not be able to repay it?

[Dunn] Besides having my father's backing, I made a commitment to myself. I believe that all of us humans want to succeed and get ahead. The important thing is luck, being in the right place at the right time. I have been there at that time, and I always say that my partner up yonder (pointing to the sky) has helped me greatly. [passage omitted]

Roberto Dunn, the Man

[Passage omitted] [Buenano] You are the father of four children, and a grandfather, also. Did you marry very young?

[Dunn] Yes, when I was innocent and did not know what I was doing (laughing).

[Buenano] Do you belong to the club favoring marriage, or do you think that marriage is the tomb of love?

[Dunn] No, I believe that when you meet the ideal woman, regardless of your age, you must take advantage

of the occasion. I feel happy with my situation, and much of the success that they claim I have had, I owe to my family, which has always supported me. I really have been lucky. Just think, I have been married for 31 years...and to the same woman (laughing). [passage omitted]

[Buenano] You describe yourself as a happy man. How is happiness built?

[Dunn] Inside oneself, feeling content with what one is doing for the benefit of others.

[Buenano] What is the formula for your success?

[Dunn] I think that it is very important to have faith in what one is doing and, especially, to act with integrity: not having anything to be ashamed of.

[Buenano] Will you act with integrity in this ministry?

[Dunn] I have done so all my life.

* Bucaram on Alliances, Economic Measures

92SM0580B Guayaquil EL UNIVERSO (Sunday Supplement) in Spanish 2 Aug 92 p 1

[Interview with Roldosist Party Supreme Director Abdala Bucaram by Silvia Coello; place and date not given—first two paragraphs are editorial introduction]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] Discussing pacts, alliances, participation in the executive branch, accusations, prosecutions, and other matters, Abdala Bucaram emphasizes that politicians of a new age are appearing in the country. In it, he claims, there is no room for fighting and wars, "because when we are among firefighters, we cannot step on the hose."

According to attorney Bucaram, the historical justification for a wide majority in the National Congress will be provided by carrying out social work projects and attempting to support architect Sixto Duran-Ballen, rather than through institutional reforms.

[Coello] Isn't it detrimental to the PRE [Ecuadoran Roldosist Party] to make pacts with the right again, as it did in 1990, because it blamed you in the trial involving drug money, and now, because there are threats of prosecuting your sister, Elsa, for her administration in the Mayor's Office?

[Bucaram] Someone used to tell me that we had better not make a pact with the Social Christians because there was the criminal act by Leon Febres-Cordero, pinning drugs on me in Panama. So, along the same line of reasoning, I would ask how it is possible to make an alliance with the ID [Democratic Left], which has governed badly, and should be investigated. And I would also ask how we can possibly make a pact with the PUR [Republican Unity Party], if we have claimed that architect Duran-Ballen has been a man who took off his shoes at night and, in the morning, could not remember where he had left them. And how could we possibly make a pact with the Popular Democracy Party [DP] after (wrongfully, as I admitted a year ago) we had said that there was complicity in Jaime Roldos's assassination. And how can we possibly make pacts with other parties about which we have made many comments. So, it turns out that, under these circumstances, we should not talk with anyone. Similarly, we might ask how other parties can possibly hold talks, when they have said such atrocious things about one another. This is absurd: The country's interest must take precedence over individual interests. We believe that the Social Christian Party is a great representative force, with 21 deputies, which must be respected, because there are people behind it. And the same holds true of other political organizations, such as the ID, DP, MPD [Democratic People's Movement], FADI [Broad Front of the Left], and Conservative Party. So, the PRE will reach agreement with those people behind the parties. This does not mean that we will give up our process of investigations aimed at the Social Christians and the ID.

[Coello] But it is often precisely because of these contradictions, and the pacts and alliances, that we lose our confidence in the parties and their leaders.

[Bucaram] What people must learn is a little politics. They must understand that those of us engaged in politics are human beings. And I believe that these past few years during which new politicians have been created have been doing Ecuador a lot of good. We have given up the old tradition of taking shots at one another. We are starting to be so mature that, when very harsh things are said to us, we are capable of sitting down and talking, sharing a cup of coffee or a glass of whiskey. [passage omitted]

[Coello] Returning to the subject of Congress, when the PRE becomes united with the PUR, the Conservative Party, and the Social Christian Party, would space be left open for any other left-of-center candidate, rather than you, to have more options for the 1996 presidential election?

[Bucaram] My problem in 1996, representing a political organization, is not the ability to be president, because that is the easiest thing. My problem is wanting to be president. Right now, I would not say that I was unenthusiastic, rather that I have lost some confidence in Ecuadorian politicians. What I can assure you is that I will always do what the principles of my organization dictate, and, from that standpoint, neither an alliance with the PUR, nor with the PSC, nor with anyone else, will harm the interests of my organization.

[Coello] If you claim not to know whether you will be interested in running in the next elections, because you are disillusioned with the politicians, are you attaching more importance to the politicians than to your ideal, which, you have always said, is to defend and lead the poor.

[Bucaram] Yes, you are partially correct, but it is also important to emphasize that there are persons who may be completing their life cycles. However, as things stand, I realize that there is no one else who will demand the rights of the poor except Abdala Bucaram, because what Borja has done is to go to the Hawaiian Islands to play tennis or to board war tanks. Hurtado, as we know by now, is a comfort-loving man. Leon Febres-Cordero will be engrossed in his shooting practice or his ridiculous horses, which I love. But I hate them when I see Febres-Cordero riding them. Carlos Julio cannot live without the bottle, and so I cannot very easily say that I am leaving, because it would be irresponsible of me. [end Bucaram] [passage omitted]

As for the organization and administration of the state's branches of authority, Bucaram thinks that all the political organizations should be taken into consideration. He is emphatic in declaring that the fact of participating in them should be regarded as an act on behalf of the nation, and not one detrimental to the party. With respect to the composition of the Supreme Court of Justice, he claims that, until a state of agreement is reached among the country's most intelligent and capable people, it will be necessary to proceed with the current legal framework. This is because, in his view, it is not so easy to find a body of laws that would organize and depoliticize the Judicial Branch.

[Coello] Who might the PRE's candidates for the Supreme Court magistracies be?

[Bucaram] I have not yet thought of any names, but we will select people who do not even have any connection with our organization, basing our choice, rather, on their background and training, essentially. [end Bucaram]

With regard to the Court of Constitutional Guarantees, Bucaram favors giving it greater coercive power in order to provide it with bases of legal support that would lend it increased power to exert pressure. He also thinks that greater repute should be a requirement in the appointment of its members.

[Coello] If architect Sixto Duran-Ballen's government adopts harsh economic measures, will the PRE immediately put up opposition, or will it at least give it the benefit of the doubt?

[Bucaram] We will give it a reasonable waiting period, but if it begins adopting ridiculous measures, it will find out what the presence of Abdala Bucaram, and of the PRE, is and what firm, tough opposition is.

[Coello] If Sixto's government is going to respect human rights and is going to engage in works projects, the weak point would be the living conditions of the poor. So, from this perspective, how do you intend to lead your party?

[Bucaram] If Sixto's government respects human rights and carries out a social plan for the benefit of the poor, he will receive support from the PRE that is neither calculated nor underhanded, but rather, unconditional support. It will not be binding in the future, in the event that supporting it totally might hurt our image in the eyes of the public, because we are a government. That does matter to me.

Paraguay

Court Orders Colonel Gonzalez To Be Released

PY1009145292 Asuncion NOTICIAS in Spanish 10 Sep 92 p 10

[Text] Judge Felix Silva Monges of the Seventh Circuit Criminal Court yesterday ordered the Armed Forces Command to release Colonel Gonzalez Rojas immediately. The court issued a note to that effect to General Andres Rodriguez.

In his note, the judge says that if the Armed Forces files legal charges under the Armed Forces jurisdiction against Col. Gonzalez it must justify them in an appropriate written inquiry.

The judge ordered the Armed Forces to respect Col. Gonzalez constitutional rights established in Articles 11, 12, 16, 17, and 18 of the new Constitution, if the colonel was in fact arrested for reasons established in the military code.

The court also ordered the Armed Forces to remit all records or reasons supporting the detention of Col. Gonzalez at the Presidential Guard to the court within 24 hours.

The judge ordered the release of Col. Gonzalez Rojas because nothing has been filed at ordinary courts to justify his arrest.

In the note sent to Gen. Andres Rodriguez, the judge refers to the order to release the former 4th Infantry Division commander saying: "I make this request on behalf of the Paraguayan nation and the Constitution."

The judge ordered Gonzalez's release because the Armed Forces did not present him at the court on 8 September for an audience with the judge following a petition of habeas corpus filed on his behalf by his brothers, attorneys Raul Francisco Gonzalez Rojas and Miguel Emilio Gonzalez Rojas. Attorney Hermes Rafael Saguier later joined the team of lawyers defending Col. Gonzalez. The court order to present Gonzalez for an audience was sent to Army Commander General Humberto Garcete but Garcete argued that the note was not directed to the right place.

The judge then visited the 1st Army Corps to talk with Gen. Garcete about his note to the court justifying his decision not to present Col. Gonzalez. At the end of the audience Judge Monges said he did not consider Garcete to be in contempt of court for not presenting Col. Gonzalez at the audience.

Senator Charges Government Protects Corruption

PY1009192092 Asuncion NOTICIAS in Spanish
10 Sep 92 p 10

[Text] Colorado Party Senator Carlos Romero Pereira, one of the main leaders of the "autonomous" group of the National Republican Association, has commented on the arrest of Colonel Luis Catalino Gonzalez. He said that this action, together with the facts that were reported by the arrested officer, reveal that corruption prevails at "certain levels of the Armed Forces, as reported by those who promote respect for institutions, which was one of the points of the proclamation of 3 February. I believe there is now less respect for the institutions."

Romero harshly criticized the fact that lawmakers, who are members of a branch of the government, had to wait for more than one hour to talk with the detainee. He emphasized that this proves that those with specific military responsibilities are not imbued with the spirit of the Constitution. He said: "It should not be necessary to consult anyone before allowing lawmakers to inquire about the fate of a citizen, of a fellow countryman, of an Armed Forces' member whose freedom has been illegally curtailed." Romero also criticized the attitude of Judge Silva Monges, to whom a habeas corpus petition was submitted on behalf of the arrested officer. He emphasized that although the officer, who was arrested for having committed a misdemeanor, is being held in irregular conditions and has not been transferred to the courts, "the only thing the judge did was go to the military unit, wait for a long time, and ask General Humberto Garcete about the situation. The judge was satisfied with his explanation. This is why I do not find it strange that the Trial Jury for Judges [Jurado de Enjuicio de Magistrados] does not even have an office, paper, or pencil. The executive branch is not interested in clarifying these facts because it is openly supporting corruption. Is it not?"

He emphasized that when someone like Colonel Gonzalez reports a case of corruption, an attempt is made to "conceal" it. This, he went on, is not in keeping with democracy. "Consequently, when someone is punished for reporting that he was ordered to go to Bolivia to conduct illegal activities, my big question is whether the part of the proclamation referring to the institutionalization of the Armed Forces was actually sincere."

He said that Colonel Gonzalez is now a symbol of the fight against corruption, adding that he might be transferred to the Pena Hermosa military prison as a common criminal. "In this case, national security has not been jeopardized. The case that has been reported is a public offense, it is robbery, it is smuggling. The nation is not at stake; the honor of the Armed Forces is at stake, and this is something quite different." He warned that other facts will be revealed. He mentioned the case of a missing Korean family, noting that a high-ranking Armed Forces officer "is involved in the affair."

He said that Congress, where a proposal was formulated to create an investigating committee, should ensure compliance with the Constitution and the law. "This is the right time to reconvene that famous committee to investigate crimes which could not be investigated some years ago."

Communique on Armed Forces Corruption Issued

PY1109034092 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish
10 Sep 92 p 6

[Text] "Armed Forces members must not be affiliated to political parties, because they risk placing the uniform at the service of factional political interests. The country pays for and demands a national Army because only then we will be able to have a solid civilian government. If the country does not clear up this matter, it risks falling into the hands of another authoritarian regime," the Military Institutionalist Movement (MIM) says in a communique in which it condemns the involvement of Army officers in the car trafficking case.

The MIM considers it a duty to watch over active duty officers in the Armed Forces, to ensure that they fully comply with institutional principles strengthening and giving prestige to the military career, which are "the only guarantees that will allow the country to move, without social cost, from a state filled with corruption, misery, and arbitrariness to a state of full respect for constitutional laws, freedom, and social and political democracy."

The communique says that the success of the transition that has been implemented in the country since 1989 depends to a high degree on the behavior of high-ranking Armed Forces officers, and their participation in the internal political matters of the Colorado Party and its fateful connection with generalized corruption.

The document says that the population is concerned about "the continuous presence of high-ranking military officers in Colorado Party internal activities, in clear violation of the Electoral Code. This concern is particularly justified when we see the 1st Army Corp commander telling reporters during the Colorado Party internal election that if the Colorado military did not vote, they would be considered society's pariahs."

The communique says that everywhere in the world thousands of physicians, engineers, chemists, journalists, economists, lawyers, and workers dedicate all their time to their profession or scientific research without paying any attention to politics, and "no one calls them pariahs because of it."

The document stresses the fact that the maintenance of members of the Armed Forces is part of the budget and is supported by taxpayers.

General Rodriguez' Supposed Impartiality

The MIM says that General Andres Rodriguez repeatedly promised not to support any Colorado Party faction

in the internal elections, and "to prove what he meant he said he would not vote on the occasion. At the moment of truth, however, he voted, untroubled."

The document says that the Colorado Party president has admitted that Gen. Rodriguez supports the Wasmosy-Seifart ticket, adding that due to situations like this "and to the continuous lies, some military chiefs have lost all credibility. The truth is that these officers want to continue exerting influence on party politics in order to continue benefitting from undue economic privileges."

"All these acts disqualify the Armed Forces. Their bad example creates a state of national uncertainty, particularly within the Paraguayan Army, whose members are tired of using the Colorado bandana over their glorious green uniform."

Regarding the journalistic reports on car trafficking through the Chaco, with the approval of some military chiefs and the arrest of Colonel Luis Gonzalez Rojas for reporting on such practices, the communique says that the incident is really unbelievable. "Criminals are rewarded and those who do not accept their behavior are punished. The population wonders: What is behind this aberrant procedure?"

The document insists that the alliance Armed Forces-Colorado Party must end, because "the loss of prestige due to this concubinage falls mostly on the military, an institution that has been seriously tarnished for half a century in its unconditional support for successive Colorado military-civilian dictatorships, which have corrupted not only large parts of the Armed Forces, but also have penetrated deeply among policemen, traders, entrepreneurs, government political leaders, judges, etc."

The communique says that in order to leave its moral, economic, social, and cultural prostration, Paraguay "urgently needs to overcome the vices provoked by the political instability derived from Armed Forces participation in partisan politics. It also needs to overcome its unending link with the present state of corruption, which includes trafficking with timber, theft of vehicles, and the widespread use of conscripted soldiers for work in private homes, construction, dairy farms, and even as aides to military bosses' wives."

Breach of Constitutional Order

"This enslavement constitutes a breach of constitutional order and turns the Armed Forces into elements that disturb democratic peace and stability. We have burning examples of this anomaly in the brotherly countries of Peru and Haiti, countries that are closer to civil war than to a peaceful and constructive solution to their problems. This is all because of military participation in political activities."

The document says that there are many reasons why the Army should dedicate all its time to its dignified profession by facilitating the recovery of the country's calm. The success of the transition depends to a large extent on an Armed Forces with a serious and responsible attitude.

The MIM calls on military men to fulfill their sworn commitment to dignify the Armed Forces with the irreproachable behavior characteristic of Paraguayan soldiers.

The MIM is headed, among others, by the following retired officers: Major Cesar Aguirre, Captain Bartolome Araujo, Captain Federico Figueredo, Lieutenant Jose Ibarrola, First Lieutenant Cessar Spezzini, and Lieutenant Cirilo Acosta Mena.

Peru

Fujimori on Constituent Congress 'Tickets'

PA1009204892 Lima Radio Programas del Peru Network in Spanish 1935 GMT 10 Sep 92

[Statement by President Alberto Fujimori at the Government Palace in Lima—recorded; broadcast in progress]

[Text] I am very pleased because it is fair and timely for the Amazon communities to be represented in the forthcoming Democratic Constituent Congress [CCD]. [applause]

As the communities are spread out so much, perhaps it may not be possible at this time to achieve the [word indistinct] [applause]. Nevertheless, I believe this is a possibility [words indistinct, applause], because if you make the decision democratically, I could invite the communities to join one of the tickets that identify with the government's policies. Either the Change 90 ticket or the ticket that Jaime Yoshiyama is forming. I believe it could be on either of the two. [applause]. It is a proposal that has broad possibilities [words indistinct, applause].

Specific requests have been made regarding the support of [word indistinct].

Economy Minister on New Tax Measures

PA0909214692 Lima Global de Television Network in Spanish 0100 GMT 5 Sep 92

[Text] At a 4 September meeting at the School of Business Administration [ESAN], Economy Minister Carlos Bolona presented an extensive report on the economic progress in the nation and the next measures to be applied. In this report, the minister said the government will only impose four taxes, which will be easy to manage. The economy minister presented an analysis of the government's economic efforts and outlined some aspects of the policy to be implemented in the coming months. The event took place before a large audience at ESAN headquarters.

Bolona reiterated that the government will only apply four taxes, simple and easy to manage. Eighteen of 80 taxes have currently been eliminated. [sentence as heard]

The four remaining taxes are: general sales tax, 18 percent; income tax and asset tax on investments; selective consumption tax on luxury items and fuels; and finally, a tax on imports, with an average duty of 17 percent.

The minister made several dry remarks during his one-hour speech, causing more than one person attending to smile. Here is part of what Minister Bolona said:

[Begin Bolona recording] [words indistinct] what we want is for the tax on consumption to be the most significant and to be high—18 percent. We are definitely going to leave it at 18 percent. I know some people criticize this, saying that it should be lower and that everyone would pay if it were 5 percent. This is not true. Why is the person who is outside of the legal system going to pay? If he pays, he will be put on the register; so he prefers to take the risk [words indistinct] I think, however, that soon we will be making real progress in this regard. We want to impose an 18 percent tax on consumption with fiscal credits [words indistinct] very high selective taxes [words indistinct] 160 percent on fuel, and so on; if the international fuel price is $0.70, it would cost $1.80 to $2.00 [words indistinct] I am not concerned about this [audience laughs] I am not concerned about this in the following aspect....[audience laughs] I do not want you to misinterpret me. [end recording]

Millions Spent to 'Clean' Financial System

PY0809144792

[Editorial Report] Lima EXPRESO in Spanish on 27 August publishes on page A16 a 450-word article entitled "Government Spends $200 Million to 'Clean' Financial System."

The article says that the government issued "two decrees authorizing higher interest rates on required withholdings, assigning $200 million to banks for the purchase of their foreign currency 'portfolio' ($100 million) and granting a credit to refinance public companies' debts ($100 million)." The decrees were published in the official newspaper EL PERUANO on 26 August.

Bank executives commented that "the measure will alleviate banks' difficult situation" because they will be able to negotiate the $100 million in government bonds to "increase banks' liquidity." The article further mentions that "bond holders will be able to use those bonds for the current process of privatization."

Privatization Aim to Fuel Economic Recovery

PY0509234492 Lima EXPRESO in Spanish
17 Aug 92 p A16

[Excerpt] Jaime Yoshiyama, energy and mines minister and president of the Commission for Promotion of Private Investment, has explained that the administration's privatization strategy is to sell the smaller and easier to sell companies this year, and then move on to the next stage, during which the larger companies and the "big monsters" will be put on the market. Yoshiyama made this statement in the course of a seminar on privatization held for journalists on 15-16 August.

The minister explained: "The mistakes we may make during this first stage of privatization will thus be avoided when the large public companies are sold." He also announced that the privatization process must be finished by 1994.

Yoshiyama stated that the privatization process will not be stopped for any reason whatsoever, not even by subversive attacks which in one way or another hamper the process by frightening away investors. "Terrorism will not make us stop privatization, because stopping it would be tantamount to giving in to extortion," the minister said.

On the recession plaguing the Peruvian economy, Yoshiyama confirmed the government's offer to invest $300 million in reactivating the economy. He explained that "of this amount $100 million were obtained through privatization, including the sale of Petroperu [State Petroleum Agency] service stations."

He added that it would have been a mistake to wait for the end of the recession to start privatizing. "On the contrary, the privatization process helps overcome the recession. Had we not launched the privatization process, we would have been unable to start thinking about economic recovery, increasing salaries, and improving health services and highways." [passage omitted]

Chile's Silva on 'Freeze' in Relations

PY0509192192 Lima CARETAS in Spanish
27 Aug 92 pp 54-56

[Interview with Chilean Foreign Minister Enrique Silva Cimma by CARETAS correspondent Luis Pasara in Santiago; date not given]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] [Pasara] Is there a freeze in Peruvian-Chilean relations?

[Silva] Naturally. As long as there is a breach of the institutional system, we cannot continue our dialogue with Peru as if nothing has happened. That would be tantamout to betraying our own struggle. We were about to wrap up certain issues still pending from the 1929 treaty, and we told the Peruvian Government in our most friendly manner that we considered the matter pending until the democratic system was restored. We have had gentlemanly talks with the current Peruvian foreign minister and with his predecessor. We believe that we are reaching an understanding within these parameters.

[Pasara] This means that as soon as Peru's institutional situation returns to normal, the issues pending from the 1929 treaty could be resolved?

[Simma] That is absolutely right. We see no problems with that. I would even go so far as to tell you that we do not object to adopting measures to address current problems related to drug trafficking and the Shining Path that may seriously hamper relations along the border, but which are necessary to prevent this from worsening the situation in Peru.

[Pasara] How do people in Chile look upon these events in Peru which have an impact beyond its borders?

[Simma] The drug problem is very serious. Naturally, it does not involve Peru alone but the entire continent to some extent. We cannot refuse to contribute to any effort aimed at drug enforcement. We believe that in this regard Peru is facing a serious situation, because drug trafficking there is linked to movements that advocate violence. Chile always will be the first to help Peru or any other country deal with this issue. [passage omitted]

Canadian Official Says 'Has Not Reduced' Aid

PA1109043192 Lima Radio Programas del Peru Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 8 Sep 92

[Text] Canada has not reduced its aid to Peru's neediest social sectors. Edward Gould, representative of the Canadian Ministry of External Relations and Foreign Development in Peru, said his country has provided $30 million in aid per year through various cooperation channels. We want to continue to help Peru, and we hope democratic institutionality will soon be restored. Canada is following the political events in the country very closely, the high-level Canadian official said.

[Begin recording] [Gould] Relations between Peru and Canada continue to be as normal as with any other country. However, Canada is following events as they unfold here in Peru very closely, and we hope to see a prompt return to democratic institutionality.

[Unidentified reporter] As long as that does not occur, will Canada continue to restrict its economic aid to Peru?

[Gould] Canada continues to aid Peru through many channels that do not necessarily imply direct assistance to the Peruvian Government. However, the greater portion of our aid to Peru and the Peruvian people continues.

[Reporter] How much financial aid has Canada given to Peru so far?

[Gould] Our aid to Peru, through all cooperation channels, totals approximately $30 million. [end recording]

Edward Gould, representative of Canadian international aid programs in Peru, said his country, through the OAS, will send a team of observers to the Democratic Constituent Congress elections slated for 22 November. He made the announcement after attending a ceremony at the Lima Metropolitan Municipality hosted by Lima Mayor Ricardo Velmo.

Venezuela

Perez on Armed Forces Stability; Ecology

PA1009195792 Caracas Venezolana de Television Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 9 Sep 92

[Text] President Carlos Andres Perez has stated the country's military stability is assured and the Armed Forces are setting a democratic example for all Venezuelans.

[Begin Perez recording] The Armed Forces faced a test on 4 February and they proved their strict adherence to the Constitution and democratic order. Some people want to take advantage of this because—like the defense minister recently said—they want a new dictatorship here. The Armed Forces will not allow a dictatorship in Venezuela and civilians should follow the Armed Forces' example. [end recording]

The president spoke during a news conference in Cabimas, Zulia State, where he inaugurated the work to clean up Maracaibo Lake. The work is part of the first phase of a law to clean the great lake, and it involves an investment of 44 million bolivares. [Begin Perez recording] Maracaibo Lake is in agony and we have come to rescue it for Zulia and Venezuela. [applause] This action will have worldwide repercussions and it proves the Venezuelan Government's concern for the country's environment. [applause] [end recording]

Navy States Position on Turpial Project

PA0409172292 Caracas Venezolana de Television Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 2 Sep 92

[Text] The Naval General Command, through Captain Carlos Roberto Walkins, on 2 September established its position regarding the Turpial project.

[Begin Walking recording] To objectively inform the nation about the process through which the naval communications system will be modernized, which has been subjected to the most widespread speculation and discussion, the Navy hereby discloses the following:

1. The so-called Turpial project that corresponds to contract DACP-1565-5462, consists of a plan to modernize the naval communications system for which the Defense Ministry has contracted the Electronic Engineering Stock Company, IEACA.

2. The Navy has received 98.5 percent of the equipment, accessories, and new parts and replacements stipulated in the contract in question, which were used to install 14 stations. Yet to be installed are six stations and technical approval tests must be conducted at all of the stations.

3. Regarding alleged irregularities in the execution of the contract, the Armed Forces, watchful of the nation's interests, initiated the pertinent investigations to establish responsibilities. This was brought to the attention of the president, who ordered a court martial.

At a later date the case was taken to the 21st Penal and Public Heritage Protection Court [Corte Penal y de Salvaguarda del Patrimonio Publico] due to a complaint filed by citizen Pedro Lovera against whom the court martial had issued an arrest warrant, but in view of the conflict of influence that ensued the Supreme Court of Justice intervened, sending the case to a regular court.

4. The Navy as a public institution that respects the law and the bodies of the branches of state that exercise those laws, trusts that justice will prevail and states that it will comply fully with the law in the certainty that the truth will be fully established, even though it regrets that some of its members are facing such a difficult situation.

5. We hope the media—which has the delicate mission of providing guidance and forming opinions—will treat the Navy and its members objectively and respectfully.

[issued] Caracas, 2 September 1992. [end recording]

Jamaican Prime Minister on Energy Agreement

PA0609201992 Caracas Venezolana de Television Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 2 Sep 92

[Report by Milagros Rodriguez]

[Text] Jamaican Prime Minister Percival Patterson announced at a news conference that during the two formal meetings with President Carlos Andres Perez they reviewed the regional integration process, affairs of hemispheric interest, and, of course, economic topics, especially to do with energy. Currently, Jamaica is a member of the San Jose Pact, which allows Jamaica to receive from Venezuela 9,000 barrels of oil a day plus a further 6,000 barrels of refined products supplied by Venezuelan Petroleum subsidiaries. Both countries are expected to sign a bilateral energy cooperation agreement in October.

[Begin Patterson recording, in English] But we will be examining whether we ought to increase the supplies, which we presently take out of the portion to which we are entitled. [end recording]

Referring to the possible free trade agreement between Venezuela and Caricom [Caribbean Common Market], which will become effective on 1 January 1993, the Jamaican prime minister says that the prospects are well aimed because the agreement will allow the start of a new stage of cooperation and understanding.

On hemispheric topics, Jamaican Prime Minister Percival Patterson upholds the view that the OAS should increase its actions and likewise the UN Security Council should exercise its rights to ensure that deposed Haitian President Jean-Bertrand Aristide regains power.

Internal COPEI Controversy Over Reform Loss

PA1009201992 Caracas Venezolana de Television Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 9 Sep 92

[Text] The controversy in COPEI [Christian Democratic Party] originated during the debate on the draft bill for constitutional reform. The problem is the result of the outcome of the votes required in the Senate to approve the Mas [Movement for Socialism] proposal to cut short the presidential mandate. To everyone's surprise, former President Rafael Caldera did not attend the session. Senators Jose Candelario [?Cassu] and Eudoro Gonzalez did not attend either, nor did any of their substitutes. To this was added Senator Alfredo Tarre Mursi's vote against the proposal, all of which contributed to the defeat of the Mas proposal.

On 4 September, Ramon Guillermo Aveledo, assistant secretary general of COPEI, turned his guns against Caldera and blamed him for the defeat. The following day, former President Rafael Caldera replied, saying he had not attended the Senate because a defeat was already foreseen given the absence of Eudoro Gonzalez and Alfredo Tarre Murzi's negative vote. With regard to Tarre Murzi, Caldera considered that the vote was against him [Caldera] as Tarre Murzi believed it would be to his advantage. Meanwhile Caldera preferred not to label what he called a maneuver by [COPEI Secretary General] Eduardo Fernandez and the pack that surrounds him. These statements gave way to COPEI President Hilarion Carbozo's response, who said that Rafael Caldera's remarks were offensive, while Tarre Murzi replied to the former president that he had lied to the nation, as he considers that the defeat of the proposal was due to his absence [Caldera's].

To conclude, the COPEI National Committee, at its regular meeting, rejected statements by Rafael Caldera, labeling them disrespectful.

Legislators on Oil Law Article Modification

PA0209215992 Caracas Venezolana de Television Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 2 Sep 92

[Text] The modification of Article 5 of the Petroleum Nationalization Law has caused controversy in various sectors of the country. Opinions are also divided in Congress. While Edgar Valle Valle, chairman of the Senate Energy and Mines Committee, said he is opposed to any change, Ramon Jose Medina, chairman of the counterpart committee in the Chamber of Deputies, said he supports any change in the article.

[Begin recording] [Valle Valle] It makes no sense to discuss the modification of Article 5 before it is in fact implemented in some strategic partnership [asociacion estrategica] proposed to Congress. To date, the single paragraph in Article 5, which establishes a legal provision, has not been applied. To date, no strategic partnership has been submitted to the consideration of Congress, with the exception of the much discussed Cristobal Colon project, which has been paralyzed by differences

among some of its foreign partners. In truth, Article 5 actually has not been applied. I think the correct thing would be to wait for Article 5 to be applied and to see whether the strategic partnerships function on the basis of that article.

[Medina] I think Article 5 hinders the possibility of reaching reasonable agreements. I think Congress should always maintain control over the approval of these kinds of contracts which are of national interest. Nevertheless, I do not think any partner would be willing to accept a control that is not based on shares or that is simply based on any percentage of shares. In order for Venezuela to have control over decisions, it would have to make large investments. [end recording]

Freddy Munoz, the secretary general of the Movement for Socialism, reiterated his party's rejection of any modification of Article 5.

[Begin Munoz recording] We are opposed to the modification of Article 5. We think a modification could lead to a process of denationalization, to a lesser or greater degree, of the petroleum industry. In any case, we are going to initiate a debate at the Chamber of Deputies next week on this topic. [end recording]

Democratic Action [AD] President Humberto Celli also reiterated his party's position on the modification of this article.

[Begin Celli recording] The possibility that Article 5 of the petroleum nationalization law might be reformed in the future is dangerous. We have rejected this because it goes against the AD platform. [end recording]

Regarding the alleged plans for the modification of Article 5, Presidency Secretariat Minister Celestino Armas said President Perez never proposed the modification of the article but its implementation. He said that 17 years after the hydrocarbons law was promulgated, Article 5 has never been used.

[Begin Armas recording] I formed part of the commission for the nationalization of the petroleum industry which met in 1975. We submitted our report to the president then and he decided to introduce the modification which became so controversial 17 years ago when, with a clear vision of the future of petroleum in the world, he proposed that Venezuela not limit itself and prevent partnerships with private capital. [end recording]

French Guiana

Ariane Rocket Launched, Deploys Satellites

PA1109025792 Paris AFP in Spanish 0110 GMT 11 Sep 92

[Text] Kourou, French Guiana, 10 Sep (AFP)—An Ariane European rocket was launched successfully at 2304 GMT on 10 September from the Kourou Space Center in French Guiana, placing in orbit the first Spanish telecommunications satellite, officials responsible for the launch at the space center have reported.

The HISPASAT-1-A Spanish satellite will improve telecommunications between the Iberian peninsula and Spanish- speaking nations of America.

A U.S. satellite, the SATCOM-C-3, which will be used to transmit cable television within North America, was also put into orbit.

The Ariane rocket, which was launched at 2304 GMT, released its first passenger, the HISPASAT-1-A, exactly 20 minutes and 20 seconds later when it was over the Atlantic Ocean. The rocket released the second satellite four minutes and 22 seconds later when it was over the Pacific Ocean.

All launch operations were "nominal," which means, in the language of technicians, that they were carried out at scheduled times.

"For Spain, this produces a great feeling of satisfaction," said Prince Philip, who attended the launch in Kourou.

Meanwhile, Arianespace President Charles Bigot described the launch of this satellite as "a spatial bridge between Spain and the Americas." "In 1992 Arianespace is proud to have participated in Spain's projection into the world," said Bigot, who added that "the launching of the two satellites constitutes a historic landmark and a step forward in cooperation between Europe and the Americas."

The launch of HISPASAT-1-A was anxiously awaited by Spain. The satellite, which weighs 2.1 tons and has a life span of 10 years, will be joined in April 1993 by a "twin brother" named HISPASAT-1-B, which will also be transported by Ariane.

The overall cost of the HISPASAT system is 59 billion pesetas ($655 million).

For the HISPASAT Consortium, which is made up of the Telefonica Telephone Company (25 percent), Retevision Spanish Radio-Television Network (25 percent), banks, and industrialists, this is the culmination of a project born in the early 1980's.

The satellite's missions include civil and military telecommunications services (telephone, data transmission, video conferences, government telecommunications), and transmission of television programs to Spain, the Canary Islands, Spanish-speaking countries of America (except Brazil), and the southeastern United States.

The project, which was studied extensively, was signed only in 1989, so the satellite could not be used during the Barcelona Olympic Games as the Spaniards had wanted.

None of the existing telecommunications satellites could meet Spanish needs to expand and improve communications with Latin American countries.

Industrial companies such as CASA, CRISA, and Technologica, which manufactured 30 percent of the equipment, view the creation of the satellite as an opportunity to learn spatial techniques.

This launch, which is the fifth since the beginning of the year and the 25th flight of an Ariane-4 rocket, used a 44 LP (with two liquid fuel propellants and two gunpowder propellants).

The rocket was equipped with a new version of the third type [as received], the H-10 "plus," which is capable of burning 340 kg of supplementary ergs [ergoles], that allow it to carry a heavier payload. The total weight of both satellites was 3.56 tons.

The solar panels of SATCOM must unfold 96 hours after launch, while those of HISPASAT will not do so until 183 hours later.

The second passenger of Ariane, the SATCOM-C 3 U.S. satellite, will serve basically to guarantee the transmission of cable television programs within North America.

SATCOM-C-3, which weighs 1.3 tons and replaces the "old" SATCOM- 1-R, is expected to have a life span of 12 years.

SATCOM-C-3, which was built by GE Astro Space of New Jersey for GE American Communications of Washington, is equipped with 24 C-band repeaters, while the first SATCOM satellites were on Ku-band.

This new satellite will offer telecommunications and television transmission services to cable television networks in the United States and Hawaii.

Twelve SATCOM satellites have been launched since December 1975. Some were placed in orbit by U.S. Delta rockets, NASA shuttles, or Ariane rockets, which placed in orbit SATCOM-C-1 in November 1991.

The chronology of the SATCOM family is somewhat "complex" because SATCOM-C-2 never existed and SATCOM-C-4 was placed in orbit in August. SATCOM-C-5, which was launched earlier, was renamed Aurora- 2.